

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

**Eagles, Patriots
escape Week 7
undefeated**

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Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb

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loss of Hendrick
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Red Hot Chili Peppers lead singer Anthony Kiedis

Volume 2, No. 199 © EPSS 2004 MIDEAST EDITION

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2004

380 tons of explosives missing from Iraq base

Kerry faults administration; White House says it is not a nuclear issue Page 3

Red Sox take 2-0 lead

In the game of inches, the Red Sox
leaping toward the World Series title

Back page



AP photos

Left: Red Sox closer Keith Foulke, second right, celebrates with teammates Sunday after Boston beat the St. Louis Cardinals, 6-2, in Game 2 of the World Series in Boston. Right: Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling celebrates a double play to end the fifth inning. Schilling pitched with a severe ankle injury and allowed just one unearned run in six innings as Boston took a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series. The teams will play Game 3 in St. Louis, scheduled for Tuesday.

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Suspected Gotti graveyard: The search of a vacant lot allegedly used as a graveyard for people ordered killed by the late mob boss John Gotti and other gangsters ended Sunday after yielding the remains of two people believed to be former Mafia captains.

Searchers recovered bones and personal items from the Queens lot earlier this month that led investigators to believe they had found the remains of Bonanno crime family captains Philip Giaccone and Dominick Trinchera, officials said on condition of anonymity.

Police began the search on Oct. 4 by cordoning off an area surrounded by housing projects, abandoned cars and trash-strewn lots.

Recent court testimony in the case of crime boss Joseph Massino, who was convicted in July of murders including those of Indelicato, Giaccone and Trinchera, led authorities to search again.

Robert Blake trial: For some prospective jurors, the Robert Blake case may be the hottest ticket in town — a high profile murder trial with a former TV star as defendant.

For many others, however, it's something they would rather avoid.

The trial of the former "Baretta" star could last four months and jurors will have to face a battery of questions from lawyers on everything from their jobs to their TV viewing habits.

The process, called "hardship screening," was to begin Monday and may involve as many as 1,800 prospective jurors before lawyers start their questioning. The majority are expected to cite family and professional reasons for not serving on such a long trial.

Blake, 71, has pleaded not guilty to one count of murder, two counts of solicitation of murder and a special circumstance of lying in wait. He is accused of killing his wife, Bonnie Lee Bakley.

N.J. governor resignation: A federal investigation has uncovered no evidence that a former aide to Gov. James E. McGreevey tried to extort millions of dollars from him by threatening a sexual harassment suit, according to the aide's lawyer.

Paul Batista, Golan Cipel's attorney, said federal officials told him that Cipel and another lawyer for his client acted properly during settlement talks in the weeks before Aug. 12, when McGreevey announced that he is gay, had engaged in an extramarital affair with another man and would resign Nov. 15.

Flu shots in Illinois: Gov. Rod Blagojevich says his administration has negotiated a tentative agreement to purchase at least 30,000 flu vaccinations from British wholesalers, but federal regulators must still approve the deal.

Blagojevich's office said a letter would be sent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Monday requesting its approval of the deal, which would allow the state to provide flu shots to Illinoisans at risk of serious complications from the flu.

The Illinois Department of Public Health would distribute the vaccinations to nursing home residents across the state, Blagojevich spokeswoman Abby Ottenhoff said.

Florida voting problems: The state will not be forced to create a paper record in case of recounts in elections on touch-screen voting machines, a federal judge ruled Monday.

U.S. District Judge James I. Cohn ruled in



favor of Secretary of State Glenda Hood and Palm Beach County Elections Supervisor Theresa LePore.

Business

EU tariffs: The European Union decided Monday to lift heavy punitive tariffs on U.S. goods — for now — while asking the World Trade Organization to examine possible loopholes in Washington's repeal of illegal corporate tax breaks.

EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy warned that sanctions — which add up to more than \$300 million in 2004 — could potentially return next year if the WTO confirms EU "doubts" about the law signed Friday by U.S. President George W. Bush.

War on terrorism

Army captain's lawsuit: The government has agreed that an Army captain will not have to report for duty on Monday for an assignment to Iraq while the Army decides whether to approve his June resignation application.

Jay Ferriola, 31, appeared briefly Sunday before U.S. District Judge Robert Sweet, who agreed to delay action until Nov. 1 on a lawsuit Ferriola filed against the government.

In a letter Saturday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Judd Lawler asked the judge to delay the case until the Army takes action on Ferriola's resignation letter. Lawler said the government agrees Ferriola is not required to report for duty Monday, as he had been directed to do.

Ferriola, a New York resident, finished eight years in the Army and Army Reserve in February. In a lawsuit Friday, he said he was told after submitting his resignation to turn in equipment and no longer to report for monthly drills. But last week, he said, he received an order directing him to report on Monday to be assigned to duty in Iraq.

Tokage death toll: Bus passengers and truck drivers standing on top of their nearly-submerged vehicles wait for rescue Thursday in Maitzuu, western Japan. The death toll from Japan's deadliest typhoon in more than a decade rose to 83 as four more bodies were found over the weekend, police said Monday. Eight people were still missing. Typhoon Tokage — the record eighth typhoon to hit Japan this year — ripped through the country last week, triggering mudslides, demolishing homes and flooding large areas in western Japan.

AP

World

Indonesian terror death: A 16-year-old Indonesian victim of the suicide bombing at the Australian embassy in Jakarta died in a Singapore hospital, officials said Monday, raising the number of dead in the attack to 10.

Mutia Rahmani Amalia died Sunday at Singapore's Mount Elizabeth Hospital, after being flown from Jakarta Oct. 18. She was in a coma and suffered liver failure and gastrointestinal bleeding, a hospital statement said. Nine others were killed in the Sept. 9 attack on the Australian embassy in Jakarta.

South Korean nuclear talks: North Korea said Monday that prospects for talks on its nuclear weapons program are getting dimmer every day and it condemned U.S.-led naval exercises in Japanese waters as an "ultimate war action."

The comments, carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency, came only hours after Secretary of State Colin Powell blamed the communist country for the delay in holding new six-nation talks on its nuclear program.

KCNA said U.S. military maneuvers around the Korean peninsula show that Washington "does not stand for a peaceful settlement of the nuclear issue."

Sudan talks: Sudan's government and rebels met Monday in Nigeria to try to break a deadlock over key security issues holding up the signing of an accord to grant humanitarian organizations wider access to hundreds of thousands of refugees of the Darfur crisis.

The previous round of talks ended in failure last month after Sudan's government and the two main rebel groups — the Sudan Liberation Army and its smaller counterpart, the Justice and Equality Movement — failed to agree on security issues.

A sticking point in the peace talks is a government demand that the rebels disarm.

Stories and Photos From The Associated Press



Ferriola

Tons of explosives gone from Iraq facility

The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Several hundred tons of conventional explosives are missing from a former Iraqi military facility that once played a key role in Saddam Hussein's efforts to build a nuclear bomb, the U.N. nuclear agency confirmed Monday.

International Atomic Energy Agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei will report the materials' disappearance to the U.N. Security Council on Monday, spokeswoman Melissa Fleming told The Associated Press.

The development immediately became an issue on the U.S. presidential campaign trail, with the White House downplaying the threat from the missing cache of weapons but Sen. John Kerry's campaign calling the disappearance a "grave and catastrophic mistake."

Fleming said the IAEA received a declaration from the Iraqi Ministry of Science and Technology on Oct. 10 "informing us that approximately 380 tons of high explosive material had gone missing" from the former Al-Qaqa military installation near Baghdad. The IAEA fears "that these explosives could have fallen into the wrong hands," Fleming said.

At the Pentagon, an official who monitors developments in Iraq said U.S.-led coalition troops had searched Al-Qaqa in the

immediate aftermath of the March 2003 invasion and confirmed that the explosives, under IAEA seal since 1991, were intact. Thereafter, the site was not secured by U.S. forces, the official said, also speaking on condition of anonymity.

The Iraqis told the nuclear agency the materials were stolen and looted because of a lack of security at governmental installations, Fleming said.

Nearly 380 tons of powerful explosives that could be used to build large conventional bombs are missing from Al-Qaqa, The New York Times reported Monday. The newspaper said they disappeared after the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq last year.

The explosives included HMX and RDX, which can be used to demolish buildings, down jetliners, produce warheads for missiles and detonate nuclear weapons. HMX and RDX are key ingredients in plastic explosives such as C-4 and Semtex — substances so powerful that Libyan terrorists needed just 1 pound to blow up Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Earlier this month, Iraq's interim government warned the United States and U.N. inspectors that the explosives had vanished.

"[On Oct. 15, we informed the multinational forces through the U.S. government with the request for it to take any appropriate action in cooperation with Iraq's inter-

im government," Fleming said. "Mr. ElBaradei wanted to give them some time to recover the explosives... but since it's now out, ElBaradei plans to inform the Security Council today" in a letter to the council president, she said.

Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, was informed after Oct. 15, and she notified Bush, the White House said.

During an Air Force One trip Monday between Texas and Colorado, White House press secretary Scott McClellan said the administration's first concern was whether it was a nuclear proliferation threat, and it had determined it was not.

"Remember at the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom there was some looting, and some of it was organized," McClellan said. A probe will also find out what happened to the weapons and whether they are being used against U.S. forces, he said.

In Washington, Democratic presidential hopeful John Kerry's campaign said the Bush administration "must answer for what may be the most grave and catastrophic mistake in a tragic series of blunders in Iraq."

"How did they fail to secure... tons of known, deadly explosives despite clear warnings from the International Atomic Energy Agency to do so?" senior Kerry adviser Joe Lockhart said in a statement.



Director General of the IAEA Mohamed ElBaradei will report to the U.N. Security Council on the disappearance of hundreds of tons of conventional explosives.

Iraqi officials suspect rebels of infiltrating military

By ROBERT H. REID

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi officials suspect that about 50 U.S.-trained Iraqi soldiers slain by insurgents — many of them execution-style — may have been set up by rebel infiltrators in their ranks.

Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's group claimed responsibility for the weekend attack, the deadliest ambush of the 18-month insurgency. The claim was posted Sunday on an Islamist Web site but its authenticity could not be confirmed.

On Monday, a suicide car bomber attacked a U.S. convoy in Khadijah, a town about 50 miles west of the capital, destroying at least two Humvees. Police said there were American casualties, but the number was not immediately known. The U.S. military had no immediate comment.

In Baghdad, a car bomb targeting an Australian military convoy exploded near the Australian Embassy, killing three Iraqis and wounding eight others, including three Australian soldiers, according to Iraqi and Australian officials.

Al-Zarqawi's group also claimed responsibility for that attack in a statement posted on an Islamist Web site Monday. It was impossible to verify the claim's authenticity.

"The mission will still be able to carry out its task," Australian Defense Force spokesman Brig. Mike Hannan told reporters in the capital of Canberra.

A separate roadside bomb killed one American soldier and wounded five others in western Baghdad.

The 50 unarmed Iraqi soldiers were killed on their way home after completing a training course at the Kirkush military



Australian soldiers arrive to secure the area after a bomb exploded on Monday near a U.S. and Australian military convoy in central Baghdad, killing at least three people and injuring several, the Iraqi Interior Ministry said. The bomb was targeting the U.S. convoy when it detonated in the Karrada neighborhood of Baghdad.

camp northeast of Baghdad when their buses were stopped Sunday evening by rebels about 95 miles east of Baghdad, Interior Ministry spokesman Adnan Abdul-Rahman said.

Some accounts by police said the rebels were dressed in Iraqi military uniforms. The insurgents forced many of the soldiers to lie down on the ground and then shot them in the head, officials said Sunday.

There was confusion over the precise number of Iraqi soldiers killed in the ambush, although the Iraqi National Guard said 48 troops and three drivers were killed.

Abdul-Rahman said 37 bodies were found Sunday on the ground with their hands behind their backs, shot execution-style. Twelve others were found in a

burned bus, he said. Some officials questioned witnesses as saying insurgents fired rocket-propelled grenades at one bus.

The killing of so many Iraqi soldiers in such an apparently sure-footed operation reinforced American and Iraqi suspicions that the country's security services have been infiltrated by insurgents.

Iraqi police and soldiers have been increasingly targeted by insurgents, mostly with car bombs and mortar shells. However, the fact that the insurgents were able to strike at so many unarmed soldiers in such a remote region suggested the guerrillas may have had advance word on the soldiers' travel.

"There was probably collusion among the soldiers or other groups," Diyala's deputy Gov.

Aqil Hamid al-Adili told Al-Arabiya television. "Otherwise, the gunmen would not have gotten the information about the soldiers' departure from their training camp and that they were unarmed."

Last week, a U.S. defense official said in Washington that some members of the Iraqi security services have developed sympathies and contacts with the guerrillas. In other instances, infiltrators were sent to join the security services, the official said on condition of anonymity.

The extent of rebel infiltration is unknown. However, it raises concern about the American strategy of handing over more responsibility to Iraqi security forces as U.S. forces could be drawn down.

Associated Press reporters Rayssa Ragab in Baghdad, Hanna Dawabreh in Baghdad and Abdul Razzak Jabir in Kut contributed to this report.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Sunday, at least 1,105 servicemembers of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 844 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department as of Friday. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated Friday at 10 a.m. EDT.

The British military has reported 67 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; the Netherlands, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 967 U.S. servicemembers have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 735 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ None reported.
The latest identification reported by the military:
■ Marine Lance Cpl. Jonathan E. Gadsden, 21, Charleston, S.C., died Friday of injuries received in Anbar Province, Iraq, on Aug. 21, assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Report: U.S. Army denying most compensation claims

The Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — The Army has denied most of the thousands of compensation claims Iraqis have filed for incidents deemed to be caused by "combat operations," which could include checkpoint shootings and other incidents involving U.S. soldiers.

The Dayton Daily News' analysis of 4,611 civil claims in Iraq — hundreds alleging abuse and misconduct by American military personnel — showed just one in four resulted in some type of payment.

The Daily News gained access to the claims in an Army database through a Freedom of Information request.

Because coalition forces are immune from civil lawsuits and criminal charges in Iraq, the only option left to Iraqis is filing for compensation under the Foreign Claims Act.

However, Iraqis' recourse is limited. The military does not pay claims for incidents deemed to be caused by "combat operations," which could include checkpoint shootings and other incidents involving U.S. soldiers.

In response to a man who claimed that his two brothers were killed and his parents injured on March 29, 2003, when coalition forces bombed his neighborhood, the military concluded: "Coalition forces dropped ordnance during Operation Iraqi Freedom on legitimate targets. Your family was in an area that was being legitimately targeted and therefore regrettably harmed."

Another case involved a man driving to get his infant daughter who became ill while staying with his wife's parents. The man was killed when soldiers opened fire on his car at a checkpoint. His family's claim for compensation was denied.

"There were blatantly fraudulent claims. As soon as they realized there was money being paid, they were beating down the door wanting money for all kinds of crazy things with no evidence whatsoever."

Marine Reserve Capt. Sean Dunn

Platoon commander who supervised claims payments in Iraq

"Our point of view toward the Americans has changed. You can feel the fury inside you," said Amir Shleman, whose brother was killed by American soldiers. "If they treated people like human beings, no one would take up weapons against them."

The day after his brother was killed, soldiers left \$2,000 near the pillow of his widow, money the family was told was for funeral expenses.

When the family filed a claim for compensation for the man's two children, they encountered months of delays before finally receiving a letter denying the claim, the Daily News said.

At least 473 claims seek compensation for Iraqi deaths and 468 for injuries, but those numbers likely are just a portion of the actual totals, the newspaper said.

More than 1,000 claims involve vehicle accidents, by far the largest category in the database. More than 400 claims involved destruction of crops, trees, livestock or water supply.

According to the newspaper's analysis, the average payment for a death in Iraq was \$3,421. In addition to the formal claims system, Iraqis were sometimes given up to \$2,500 in sympathy payments without any paperwork, said attorney Jack Bouzian, who held seminars to show Iraqi attorneys how to file the claims.

About 78 percent of the claims were for incidents that occurred after President Bush declared major combat operations over on May 2, 2003.

Lt. Col. Charlotte Herring, the chief of the U.S. Army's Foreign Tort Branch, said the Army database inspected by the newspaper is incomplete. In fiscal year 2004, the Army paid 11,000 claims and denied 3,000, she said. Prior to this past June, however, the Army did not track how many claims were denied.

Herring said the Army, which handles civil claims for all three service branches in Iraq, has given out \$8.2 million since June 2003 and budgeted \$10 million in fiscal year 2005 to help Iraqis deal with losses suffered because of war.

The claims process is made difficult, officials said, because of the time it takes to sort through invalid claims.

"There were blatantly fraudulent claims," said Marine Reserve Capt. Sean Dunn, who worked as a platoon commander and supervised claims payments in Iraq. "As soon as they realized there was money being paid, they were beating down the door wanting money for all kinds of crazy things with no evidence whatsoever."

Blair: Coalition making progress in Iraq

The Associated Press

LONDON — British Prime Minister Tony Blair said Monday that U.S.-led coalition forces are making gains in Iraq, and would be happy to leave as soon as "terrorism" ceased.

At his monthly news conference, Blair responded to a question about recent attacks against coalition forces and Iraqis, including the slaughter of about 50 Iraqi National Guard recruits over the weekend.

"What's happening is the Iraq government and the multinational coalition forces are bit by bit taking back control of these towns: Najaf, Sa-

mara, Tal Afar," Blair said.

Britain is preparing to move 850 soldiers out of relatively peaceful southern Iraq to provide cover for American troops near Baghdad while they try to stabilize the volatile central region ahead of elections in January.

"And what the people who are bombing and killing ordinary people are doing is trying to prevent the elections taking place. And the people they are killing are often innocent — in fact nearly always — innocent, unarmed people."

If such attacks ceased, Blair added, "there would be no need for American and British and other countries' troops to help the Iraqi government."

"The only reason we remain is because until the Iraqi government has its own capability, especially with the elections coming up in January, they need our sup-

port.

"This is why it is such complete hypocrisy of these people to say that what they are doing is protesting against the occupation, so-called."

"They are not protesting against what they are trying to stop (is) the elections because they know perfectly well that if the terrorism stopped and the security situation improved, the American and British would be out. They'd gone," Blair said.

Blair's political opponents have leveled a series of allegations against the prime minister, ranging from outright lying to moving British troops deeper into Iraq to help President Bush in next week's U.S. election.

Former Prime Minister John Major has said it's unlikely the British public would trust Blair again in any decision about going to war.



Some 200 demonstrators, many of them handicapped, protest the kidnapping of CARE International's Iraqi operations director Margaret Hassan, on poster, in Baghdad on Monday. Hassan spent nearly half her life delivering aid in Iraq before being abducted last Tuesday.

More than 100 Iraqis demand release of aid worker Hassan

BY SARAH JERGES

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — About 130 Iraqis, many of them recipients of humanitarian aid, rallied Monday in front of the Baghdad offices of CARE International to demand the release of aid worker Margaret Hassan.

Hassan, the Iraq director of CARE International, was abducted last Tuesday on her way to work at the organization's west Baghdad headquarters.

Hassan, 59, who holds British, Irish and Iraqi citizenship, is married to an Iraqi and has spent nearly half her life in humanitarian work in this country.

"We demand the release of this woman who took part and exerted painstaking efforts in reconstructing Ibn al-Qit Hospital for spinal diseases. She helped provide the hospital with wheelchairs for the patients and medical aid."

Abbas Mahdi al-Musawi
Protester

Seven other foreign women have been kidnapped but all have been released.

More than 30 male hostages have been killed by their abductors.

"We demand the release of this woman who took part and exerted painstaking efforts in reconstructing Ibn al-Qit Hospital for spinal diseases. She helped provide the hospital with wheelchairs for the patients and medical aid."

Innovative tactics a 'recipe for success'

3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division making progress in Diyala province

BY DENIS D. GRAY
The Associated Press

BAQOUBA, Iraq — When U.S. civilian authorities were rooting out Saddam Hussein loyalists, Col. Dana J.H. Pittard recruited 41 of them as advisers and encouraged them to stay in contact with the very insurgents who were fighting his men.

Discovering that a respected Muslim cleric had been in prison for 10 months, Pittard and a small contingent of helicopter pilots to the lockup in full battle gear, and confronted military police guards, demanding that they free him.

"We made it very clear we wouldn't leave without him," Pittard said. Otherwise, he added jokingly, "I think we would have kidnapped him."

Pittard, commander of an American infantry brigade in the once insurgency-rife province of Diyala, is outspoken and uses tactics that don't always go by the textbook. But he believes they have produced a "recipe for success" at Baghdad's vital northern gateway.

It includes everything from driving wedges between rebel factions to forbidding his troops to be rude to Arabs.

A Harvard-educated military aide to former President Clinton, the colonel from El Paso, Texas, also believes that contrary to what some military analysts think, a conventional U.S. Army unit with the right training, tactics and mind-set can defeat the rebellion.

While Pittard and others acknowledge the insurgency remains active and could again worsen, he points to evidence of a sharp decrease in attacks in the largely agricultural region of some 1.7 million people.

Roadside and car bombings, while still a serious threat to his 6,000 troops, fell 60 percent from their June peak while direct attacks plummeted by 85 percent, according to the military. As mortar and rocket strikes on Camp Warhorse, headquarters of Pittard's 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, have subsided, body armor no longer has to be worn at all times and outdoor volleyball and basketball courts have come into use.

Pittard, 45, believes it's important to project toughness. "The fact that we allowed ourselves to pull out of Fallujah was a mistake," he says, referring to the insurgent stronghold west of Baghdad. To prevent any such backsliding in his territory, Pittard has troops continuously stationed inside Baqouba, the provincial capital.

"We don't allow even the slightest sign of open resistance," he said.

When the Diyala province town of Buhuriz flared up over the summer, Pittard threatened to destroy it and a sizable U.S.-Iraqi force went in to kill or wound some 50 insurgents. But at the same critical moment — as leaflets circulated demanding U.S. troops stay out — Pittard drove into the center of town, held a news conference for Iraqi media and asked: "What do you need in Buhuriz?"

"We realize we can kill the enemy 'til kingdom come and still not be successful," Pittard says. "You need a full-spectrum, balanced approach — the right balance between lethal and non-lethal action."

Crucial, he says, was the nine months the brigade spent as peacekeepers in Kosovo not long before coming to Iraq in March.

"I think we got to know how im-



AP photos

Above: Col. Dana J.H. Pittard, commander of the 1st Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade, center, arrives in April at Coalition Provisional Authority headquarters in Najaf, Iraq. Pittard, commander in the once insurgency-rife province of Diyala, is outspoken and his tactics don't always follow the textbook. Left: Iraqi National Guardsmen secure the area Sunday after militants targeted National Guard forces near Baqouba, the provincial capital.

portant it was to relate to people, and how to separate the bad guys from the population," he says. "We have not scouted up people in a big net to find the rotten fish."

"We deconstruct who is who," he said. "If a guy feels he's a nationalist fighting the occupier of his homeland we can deal with that. It's the hard core that has to

be killed or captured."

Not long after the Iraqi national elections planned for January, the brigade is scheduled to leave Iraq and the replacement unit may pursue other tactics. A Western civilian official, interviewed on condition of anonymity, speaks positively about Pittard's overall approach, but cautions that the successes in Diyala may prove

only momentary.

While the insurgents appear to have lost ground in Diyala, Pittard's intelligence officer, Maj. Kreg Schnell, says 13-15 cells are still operating and elusive.

A unit can be just "three men with a rocket launcher on a pick-up truck," he says, and Diyala's unemployment rate of up to 70 percent among males makes it fertile recruiting ground.

Kidnapping of female CARE director stirs debate on the Web



A boy carries an enlarged photo of Margaret Hassan on Sunday as he and about 200 others protest the kidnapping of Hassan, the Iraqi CARE director. Hassan has spent nearly half her life delivering food and medicine in the country before being abducted by militants a week ago.

BY RAWYA RAGEH
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The kidnapping of British aid worker Margaret Hassan has generated a debate on Islamist Web sites, with many contributors urging the kidnappers to spare her life.

Hassan, 59, the director of CARE international's operations in Iraq who has lived here for 30 years, was seized Tuesday in western Baghdad. On a videotape aired Friday by Al-Jazeera television, the terrified Hassan made a tearful plea for her life, calling on British Prime Minister Tony Blair to withdraw troops from Iraq.

Hassan, who is married to an Iraqi and also holds Irish and Iraqi citizenship, is the highest profile figure to fall victim to the wave of kidnappings sweeping Iraq. As a woman who has spent nearly half her life helping Iraqis, her abduction has stirred passions even among people who

have little sympathy for other kidnappers.

"Spare this hostage. She is a woman who dedicated her life to supporting Iraq and its people. Is it religious that she is rewarded with murder?" said one Web site contributor, writing under the pseudonym "Hadeeth al-Zaman."

"Say the British government did this and that," he added. "Is it right that we take our revenge on an innocent person who is not involved with what her government does?"

Another contributor, writing under the name Nour Mohammed, said she "pitied the poor woman when I saw her face [on television]. I hope they release her in respect for the poor woman's weakness."

Kidnapping and killing civilians have traditionally been considered against the teachings of Islam. The Prophet Muhammad enjoined his followers to treat captives with respect.

However, Islamic militants

have argued that civilians who are working for the U.S. military do not qualify as noncombatants since they are profiting from the U.S. war effort.

Hassan, who spoke out against U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq, is a much more sympathetic figure to many Muslims.

"It is very hard to justify her killing using any Islamic argument unless they come up with something like 'she is a spy or an agent for occupation,'" said Mohammed Salah, a Cairo-based expert on Islamic militancy.

On Sunday, the headline cleric who run the Sunni insurgent bastion Fallujah called on Hassan's kidnappers to release her unless they can prove she was collaborating with the occupation.

Abu Saad, a member of the clerical Shura Council, said it was "illegitimate" to kidnap her "because she has been dealing with the Iraqis for several years, because she has been serving this country and because her husband is Iraqi."

Iraqis turn to humor in face of hardship

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — In debt, jobless and fed up with power outages, Abu Qa Gauri and his wife have themselves frozen to be revived when life is better. Ten years later, they are thawed out.

"Turn on the TV so we find out if elections were held and a democratic government installed," Abu Qadouri shouts at his wife.

She yells back: "We have no electricity!" The scene is from "Al-Qad al-Mikabaleen," or "Alley of the Junkies," a comedy that began airing last week on a privately owned Iraqi TV channel. Broadcast daily, it has taken the country by storm.

Many Iraqis readily admit that humor is not considered an Iraqi characteristic. Egyptians have a reputation as the jokesters of the Arab world. Iraq is better known as a nation of avid readers.

But the unbridled freedoms that followed the fall of Saddam Hussein and the misery of a constant cycle of bombings, kidnappings and murders have kindled a national sense of humor.

Much of it is satirical and can be seen in street graffiti that makes fun of everyone, starting with the 140,000 American soldiers in Iraq. Other targets include insur-

Popular TV show 'Avenue of the Junkies' lets citizens get catharsis through satire

gents, common criminals and political parties.

"The black humor you see on television is the only way for us to vent frustration," said Qasim al-Sabti, one of Iraq's leading painters. "We cry one minute and laugh the next when we watch 'Alley of the Junkies,'" he said.

Much of the dialogue is in the Iraqi dialect, which can be difficult to understand, even for fellow Arabs.

"Every time I apply for a job they ask me for a letter or recommendation from a political party," Abu Hamoudi, the episode's lead actor, complains to his wife. Their son has given up trying to find a job and has taken up begging at a traffic light

close to the family home.

Hashem Salman, one of Iraq's top comedians, is not too thrilled about TV shows portraying Iraqis as thieves, looters and junkies.

As for artistic license, he claims comedians under Saddam could get away with criticizing the regime.

Another comedian, Majid Yassin, said in some ways exercising his profession is harder these days with the capital the scene of so much violence and crime.

"You cannot go to a show and come out at 10 or 11 at night. Not any more," he said. "My group performs only in safe towns outside Baghdad."

Still, what Iraqis see in "Alley of the

Junkies" is a far cry from anything seen or watched during Saddam's reign of terror, when Iraqis could end up in jail — or worse — for indiscreet jokes about the president and his family.

Now, Iraqis post images on Web sites ridiculing Saddam. One shows him begging and squatting on the ground, singing about how unfair life can be.

Another one shows him lying on his back in a hole — he was captured in December in an underground hole near his hometown of Tikrit — with rats and trash around him.

"You are the only Loyal Baathists left for me," he tells the rodents.

Newspaper cartoons, by contrast, are heavy with criticism and sarcasm, but with only a dash of humor.

In the daily al-Mustamar, published by the Iraqi National Congress party, a party that primarily gathers Iraqi exiles, cartoonist Abdul-Khaleq al-Hubur drew three haggard Iraqis in their underwear seated on a bench. One is blindfolded, another has a cloth stuck in each ear and the third has his mouth covered with a handkerchief.

An American soldier stands before them like a school teacher.

He's carrying a folder bearing the words: "Democracy: First Lesson."

Revolutionary Guard's influence grows as Iran nears political crossroads

BY BRIAN MURPHY
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — They are the shock troops of Iran's Islamic Revolution, the men who helped seize the U.S. embassy a generation ago and bore the brunt of their country's eight-year war with Iraq.

The vast and well-funded Revolutionary Guards are still the most potent force available to the regime. And their network of soldiers and vigilantes may be hungry for even more clout as Tehran faces new pressures over its nuclear ambitions, the war in Iraq and the approach of Iran's critical presidential election next year, analysts say.

A vivid example is Tehran's new international airport. It was supposed to showcase a new, more outward-looking Iran. Flights should have begun months ago. Instead, it's empty and controlled by the Revolutionary Guards, who shut it down because they suspected the company hired to help operate it could have business ties to their archenemy, Israel.

Those terminals gathering dust on Tehran's desert outskirts may be a sign that Iran's theocracy is loosening the reins on the guards at a sensitive time, some analysts believe. This could mean a re-trenching of hard-line positions rather than a move toward compromise with the West on pivotal issues such as Iran's nuclear program.

"The climate is ready for the Revolutionary Guards to play a bigger role," said Tehran-based political analyst Saeed Ale-Agha. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and his inner circle have been buffeted from many directions.

Washington is warning Iran to keep its distance from Shiite Muslim brethren in neighboring Iraq. Iran also is facing an uphill struggle



Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards members march during a parade ceremony marking 24th anniversary of the onset of the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988) in front of the mausoleum of the late revolutionary founder Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini on Sept. 21, just outside Tehran, Iran.

to convince the West its nuclear programs are for energy, not arms. Presidential elections next year to replace the exhausted reformist camp of Mohammad Khatami could again bring political feuds to a boil.

The more than 200,000-member corps of Revolutionary Guards — which is independent of the ordinary armed forces — have a direct pipeline to the leadership and a broad mandate to confront "dangers" to the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Each advance by the Revolutionary Guards is another potential blow to the influence of the elected government, the regular armed forces and reformist officials.

The guards carry considerable

prestige for their front-line role during the 1980-88 war with Iraq and direct the volunteer militia known as the "basiji," which some estimates say includes 15 percent of the population, or about 10 million people.

But it doesn't stop there. The Revolutionary Guards oversee such vital and lucrative interests as oil platforms, pipelines and dams, and the airport affair suggests they are reaching into new areas of politics and the economy.

The regular military also may defer to the guards on many key matters, including missile development. Earlier this month, Iran announced the range of its missiles had been extended to 1,250 miles, reaching anywhere in the Middle East and Central Asia.

In September, at a military parade, the corps rolled out a Shahab-3 missile with expanded range. It was draped with a banner saying: "Israel must be wiped off the world map."

"It's no surprise that Iran's leaders could be turning to institutions such as the Revolutionary Guards," said Gary Samore, a senior researcher at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. "This is a period of many uncertainties for Iran, and the Revolutionary Guards represent a reliable fallback position for the establishment."

The airport seizure was a lesson in how far they will go — and how little anyone can do about it. The guards shut down the \$200 million airport on the first day of scheduled flights in May, citing se-

curity risks. They feared possible business links between Israel and a Turkish company with the contract to co-manage the airport.

The government and liberal lawmakers protested, but in vain. The conservative-dominated parliament, which includes former officers and sympathizers of the guards, voted Oct. 4 to impeach the transport minister over complaints topped by the airport deal.

There's suspicion — although unproven — that the Revolutionary Guards are actively supporting militant Shiite factions in Iraq. But no one questions the Guards' deep influence over Iran's most hard-line policies, including opposition to any political thaw with Washington.

These days, heightened anxiety is evident. Iranian Web sites, Friday prayer leaders and political commentators are all chewing over scenarios of a U.S. or Israeli strike, and the Revolutionary Guards do nothing to discourage the nail-biting.

"Bush won't hesitate to attack Iran if he wins," said the senior Revolutionary Guards commander, Mohajadollah Mojtahab Zolnour, told a gathering last month.

The guards also are flexing their muscles in other directions as Iran and other oil exporters cash in on record-high crude prices.

Its development would accelerate if the basiji had control of conservative Iran. The Revolutionary Guards command, Brig. Gen. Rahim Safavi, said last month.

Ehsan Ahari, an international affairs commentator based in Norfolk, England, said the guards' resurgence to the U.S.-led attacks that toppled the Taliban in neighboring Afghanistan.

"Iran has been nervous that they could be next. Iraq only made it worse," he said. "The Revolutionary Guards are borderline paranoid. This is why they could be seeking as much control as possible."

Two F-16 units in Germany get new helmet system

BY MARNI MCENTEE

Stars and Stripes

SPANGDAHELM AIR BASE, Germany — Spangdahlem's fighter pilots are finding out that locks really can kill.

The base's two F-16CJ fighter squadrons are among the first F-16 units in the Air Force to get a new helmet system that allows them to simply glance at an enemy target and lock onto it before firing.

No more turning the entire jet before the targeting system can lock on to the bad guy.

"Now, I don't have to turn the plane. I just turn my head," said Capt. Kevin Lord, life support officer for the 23rd Fighter Squadron.

The Helmet Mounted Cueing System, which costs nearly \$100,000 per unit, display flight information on the inside of helmet visors, keeping the data in sight at all times. It also allows aiming or

deploying sensors and air-to-air or air-to-ground weapons with little more effort than looking at a target and pressing a switch, according to a Web site on the helmet by its manufacturer, Boeing.

Lord said the new system is safer than the older system because it allows a pilot to keep his full attention outside the cockpit, rather than on internal displays just below eye level inside the plane. That could help avoid mid-air collisions in crowded airspace.

"The information is right in front of the pilot's eyes, no matter where he's looking," Lord said.

Air Force F-15 pilots and Navy F/A-18 pilots have been using the system for several years. Spangdahlem pilots received the new headgear several months ago and have been training with it since.

The Spangdahlem fighters haven't used the new system in a war zone, but it's only a matter of time until that happens, Lord said.

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MARNI MCENTEE/Stars and Stripes

Capt. Kevin Lord, 23rd Fighter Squadron life support officer at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, talks about the unit's new helmet system that allows a pilot to lock on to a target with the glance of an eye.

DOD investigates whistle-blower's Halliburton claims

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon's internal watchdog is looking into claims by a top Army contracting official that a Halliburton Co. subsidiary unfairly won no-bid contracts worth billions of dollars for support services in Iraq and the Balkans.

The complaint alleges that the award of contracts without competition to restore Iraq's oil industry and to supply and feed U.S. troops in the Balkans puts at risk "the integrity of the federal contracting program as it relates to a major defense contract."

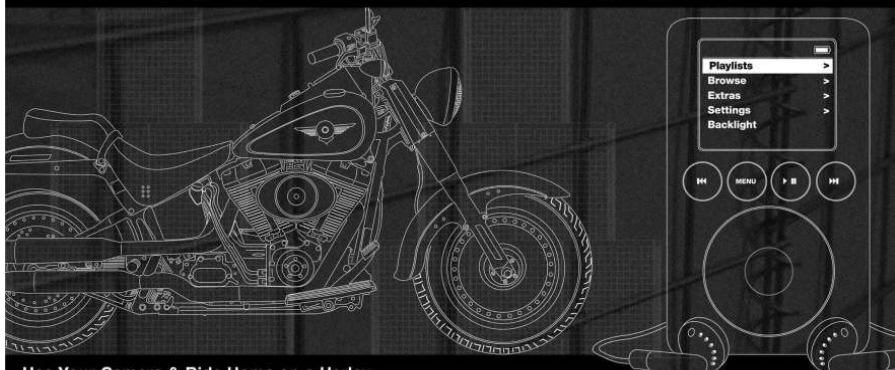
It also asks protection from retaliation for the whistle-blower, Bunnatine Greenhouse, chief contracting officer of the Army Corps of Engineers.

A letter from an Army attorney to Greenhouse's lawyer said the matter is being referred to the Defense Department's inspector general for "review and action, as appropriate."

Copies of the letter and complaints, documents provided to some members of Congress, were obtained Sunday by The Associated Press.

Wendy Hall, a spokeswoman for Houston-based Halliburton, said company subsidiary "KBR" doesn't have any information on what Bunny Greenhouse may or may not have said to other Pentagon officials in early 2003.

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IN THE STATES

Chief justice treated for cancer

BY GINA HOLLAND
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, the second-oldest man to preside over the nation's highest court and its premier conservative figure, is undergoing treatment for thyroid cancer.

Rehnquist, 80, underwent a tracheotomy at Bethesda Naval Hospital in suburban Maryland on Saturday, the court announced Monday. It said he expects to be back at work next week when the court will next be in session.

Even so, Rehnquist's hospitalization little more than a week before the election gave new prominence to a campaign issue that has been overshadowed by the war on terrorism. The next president is likely to name several justices to a court that has

been deeply divided in recent years on issues as varied as abortion and the 2000 election itself.

Rehnquist, a conservative named to the court in 1972 by President Richard Nixon and elevated to chief justice by President Reagan in 1986, has had a series of health problems.

In 2002 he missed several court sessions after hurting his knee in a fall at his home. He had surgery to repair a torn tendon.

Rehnquist also has struggled with chronic back pain over the years.

The thyroid gland, located in the neck, produces hormones that help regulate the body's use of energy. There are several types of thyroid cancer, and it was not immediately known which type affected the justice.

Word of the cancer came in a two para-

graph release from the court. It said Rehnquist was recently diagnosed with cancer and that he was admitted to the hospital on Friday. There were no other details about his condition.

Rehnquist has frequently been mentioned as a possible retirement prospect, although he has hired law clerks through June 2006. He turned 80 on Oct. 1, and at a birthday celebration he made no mention of stepping down.

No matter who is elected president next week, a vacancy on the high court is likely during the next presidential term. Both President Bush and Sen. John Kerry have avoided describing a litmus test for a Supreme Court nomination, although their differences on abortion are cut along partisan lines. The future of the Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion is the most visible symbol of the court's ideological split.



Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court William H. Rehnquist is undergoing treatment for thyroid cancer.

Bush revamps terror speech

BY JENNIFER LOVEN
The Associated Press

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. — President Bush says he's campaigning for re-election "as if we are going to win," remaining confident despite polls showing a tight race with Democrat Sen. John Kerry.

Asked in an interview broadcast Monday whether he has considered the fact that he could lose, Bush replied, "I'm not there yet."

"I believe we're going to win and I'm campaigning as if we are going to win," the president said in the interview broadcast Monday on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Both presidential candidates are focusing their efforts on fewer than a dozen states that remain highly competitive, with both camps making last-minute scheduling decisions to reflect realities on the ground.

Later Monday, the president was expected to deliver a speech revamped to call attention to the

central argument of his re-election bid — that he is the best candidate to keep America safe.

"There will be new language. There are many different arguments to be made to make the same point," White House communications director Dan Bartlett said of remarks Bush was to deliver at a rally in Greeley, Colo.



Bush

The new speech was part of a multipronged, final-stage effort by Bush to hone the defining issues of the campaign and to find a way to break the neck-and-neck status of the race.

Asked in the ABC interview about the possibility of a terrorist attack on the United States before

the election — something the administration has warned the country about, Bush said, "We don't have actionable intelligence to say there's an attack, and of course if we did, we'd be moving heaven and earth to stop it."

Bush once again defended his decision to go to war with Iraq. "I calculated as best I could the cost of going to war... It is a very, very heavy decision for the commander in chief. You can't put a price tag on a person's life," Bush said. "If the commander in chief withdraws before the mission is completed, it's too great a price."

Bush said it was "essential that we succeed in Iraq... because if we do not succeed in Iraq... the terrorists will rejoice."

Monday's focus on the war on terror includes a new television ad that closely tracks the president's remarks. With former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani by his side, Bush accuses Kerry of not having what it takes to prosecute the anti-terror war.

On the issues



Are the government's defenses sufficient to protect Americans from food-borne sickness?

President Bush



"My administration is working around the clock to protect our nation from intentional and accidental risks to the safety of our food supply. My 2005 budget provides \$470 million for this important work, an increase of almost 15 percent over last year. This includes an increase for the Animal Drugs and Feeds program, which ensures that food from animals is

safe, and has the primary role in preventing the introduction and spread of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, or 'mad cow disease,' The Food and Drug Administration is partnering with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service with the common goal of increasing our ability to detect threats to our nation's food supply."

Sen. John Kerry



"No. As president, I will put public health first and will not take any action that might jeopardize our nation's food supply, like having lax border inspections of imported food. We must do a better job of inspecting and identifying cattle that are exhibiting signs of a neurological disease or that can't walk to ensure they do not enter

the food supply. I will increase testing and inspections and enhance our surveillance efforts to prevent the risk of BSE. I will also implement an aggressive timeline for establishing a national animal ID tracking system that would make it possible to identify and contain or recall livestock and meat when these efforts are critical to improve food safety and better protect public health."

Kerry attacks 'great blunders'

BY NEDRA PICKLER
The Associated Press

DOVER, N.H. — Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry said Monday that failure to secure hundreds of tons of explosives now missing in Iraq was "one of the great blunders" of the war by the Bush administration.

"Terrorists could use this material to kill our troops, our people, blow up airplanes and level buildings," Kerry said.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said the Pentagon had asked international monitors to look into the missing explosives and whether they are being used against U.S. forces.

He said the first priority was to make sure there was not a nuclear proliferation threat — and there was not.

Kerry, appealing for votes in far-flung battleground states, also appeared with former President

Clinton in Philadelphia — Clinton's first political event since his heart surgery — and telling voters in Iowa he would call a "rural summit" as president to address the difficulties of people in farm states.

"This is one of the folks I met in rural Iowa and other parts of the country, Wisconsin, Minnesota, elsewhere, are fed up with a sense of frustration as well as anxiety about their children and their own possibilities. They want to be able to have their kids find a job in the place where they were raised," Kerry said in a conference call with Iowa reporters.

As for the explosives in Iraq, Kerry told a rally in New Hampshire and joined former Clinton in Philadelphia at midday.

Kerry told a rally in New Hampshire, "The unbelievable blindness, shortsightedness, arrogance of this administration to do the basics have now allowed this president to once again fail the test of being the commander in chief."

"This is one of the great blunders of this administration," Kerry said.

The disclosure that 380 tons of explosives had disappeared from a former Iraqi military installation was cited by Kerry as fresh evidence that the Bush administration went to war with Iraq ill-prepared to deal with the chaos and insurgency that followed.

Kerry started his day in New Hampshire and joined former Clinton in Philadelphia at midday.

"I hope he brings strength of health and the excitement that Bill Clinton always brings to the campaign trail," Kerry said.

Clinton: Campaigning for Kerry won't hurt recovery

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Former President Clinton dismissed concerns that his decision to campaign for Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry seven weeks after undergoing heart surgery is risky, saying, "I want to do this."

In an interview Sunday with ABC News, Clinton said he talked to his doctors about it and "they made some very helpful suggestions."

"They said, you know, I should get wherever I'm going early in case I'm tired, so I can kind of regenerate," he said.

The former president attended a rally with Kerry in Philadelphia on Monday morning and

then traveled to Florida for a rally that evening.

He said his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., was not worried that it was too soon for him to campaign but "didn't want me to do too much, and I don't either," according to a transcript of the interview, which was scheduled to air Monday on "Good Morning America."

"I think you know there's only so much anyone can do in a campaign that he or she is not the candidate in," Clinton said.

"But I want to do this. Sen. Kerry asked me to do it. And I want to do it."

Clinton, 58, has been recovering at his home after undergoing quadruple bypass surgery in New York City on Sept. 6.

Organ donations from strangers trim wait lists but spur ethical questions

BY LAURA MECKLER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Log onto an organ donor Web site and you will find desperate people looking for strangers who might give a kidney or piece of liver.

"My friend, Josh, is 26 years old and needs a kidney transplant. He has had cancer since the age of 2," reads one message.

"Vietnam Veteran with 3 little children desperately needs A+B liver," says another.

"I have a cousin... that is very sick in hospital, he needs a liver transplant very urgently... my aunts came up with the idea to look in the internet for one," someone else pleads.

The national transplant waiting list has grown to more than 87,000 because organ donations from the dead have not kept up with demand. For help, frustrated patients increasingly are turning to the living, even to strangers. That worries bioethicists, surgeons and federal officials who oversee the transplant system, which is designed to treat all patients fairly.

Most troubling is the possibility that people will buy and sell organs, an illegal practice that is difficult to uncover if participants are willing to lie about it.

Last year, 86 people donated to people they did not know in 1997, there were none.

Last week, surgeons in Denver transplanted a kidney to a patient who met his donor through MatchingDonors.com, a commercial site. Denver doctors delayed the surgery for two days amid concerns about the for-profit site and questions about whether the recipient might be paying the donor for his kidney.

After the hospital got behind on sign affidavits swearing there was no cash payment, the surgery went ahead. Still, hospital officials said there were ethical concerns they hoped federal officials would sort through.

The for-profit nature of MatchingDonors.com, where patients pay \$295 per month to post a profile, made officials particularly nervous. But the same sort of matching is rampant on livingdonorsonline.org, a nonprofit site that provides a billboard forum for people looking to find or offer an organ.

"I imagine when people are in need of a lifesaving organ, they'll do what they can to get one," said Dr. Andrew Klein, a surgeon

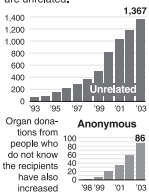


PRESBYTERIAN ST. LUKE'S MEDICAL CENTER/AP

Kidney transplant patient Bob Hickey, 58, left, of Edwards, Colo., greets his kidney donor, Robert Smitty, 32, of Chattanooga, Tenn., on Thursday at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center in Denver, a day after the kidney transplant surgery. Their surgery was believed to be the first brokered by a Web site created to match organ donors with patients needing transplants.

Living donors

The number of living donors has risen significantly in recent years to 6,811 in 2003. The majority are family members, but an increasing number are friends and others who know the patient but are unrelated.



simply better at recruiting donors over others who are sicker and ranked higher on the national waiting list.

"We're trying to keep the playing field as level as possible," said Dr. Mark Fox, chairman of the ethics committee of the United

National Organ Sharing, the national transplant network.

"I don't think the fact that you can write the most appealing ad or get lucky and find someone on the Internet should give you special consideration," Fox said.

Traditionally, patients who need transplants have waited on the national list for an organ donated by someone who died. Patients are ranked by a complex formula.

Lowney does not agree that giving an organ to one person is unfair just because someone else might be in greater need. The bottom line, he said, is, "You're giving life to someone."

The network has approved a resolution suggesting that donations from "altruistic donors" go to the next person on the list. But this is simply a recommendation, with no enforcement envisioned, Klein said.

Living donation has inherent ethical issues as healthy people are having surgeries that will do them no good. There are real medical risks to the donor that are not well understood and not consistently explained.

Still, the number of living donors has climbed steadily over the past few years to 6,811 last year, with living donors now outnumbering dead ones.

The vast majority of living donors give a kidney, which is relatively safe because people typically have two kidneys and only need one.

Also, research has found that kidneys from the living are just as good, if not better, than those from the dead, and that matches do not have to be medically exact to be successful.

Apartment fire in Ohio traps, kills 7 children

BY JOHN SEEWER
The Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio — Joe Jaramillo climbed the staircase with smoke searing his eyes and the cries of seven trapped children ringing in his ears. But he couldn't get any closer.

"They were yelling 'Help us!' but I couldn't do anything. I had to come back for air," he said.

The youngsters died after a fire broke out in a Toledo apartment Sunday afternoon. All of the victims — six girls and one boy — were between six months to 7 years old.

Toledo firefighters arrived at the scene about a minute after receiving an emergency call, but met heavy flames on a staircase as they fought to reach the victims, Chief Michael Bell said. They contained the fire quickly after pulling the children out, he said.

Jaramillo ran into the two-story building and tried to get upstairs where the children were trapped, as the mother of some of the children stood outside screaming that her babies were inside. Jaramillo, 36, he said, had been visiting his daughter in the area.

No adults were injured, but five of the children died at area hospitals soon after the blaze, authorities said. A sixth child died several hours later and the seventh died early Monday morning, a spokeswoman at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center said.

Bell said no adults were in the building when firefighters arrived. It was unclear if adults were inside when the blaze broke out. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

Jaramillo said the father of one of the children had tried to go upstairs with a fire extinguisher, "but it didn't work." He and the father tried to go up the stairs a second time, but the smoke and flames were too thick.

"Then it was just quiet," Jaramillo said.

Authorities withheld the names or relationships of the victims Sunday. Neighbors said the woman who lived there with her children also had two sisters who live in the apartment complex.

Relatives of the victims who gathered outside the hospital Sunday night declined to comment.

Nearly all the fire damage was limited to one apartment and the roof of the two-story brick apartment building, which contained five units, said Battalion Chief Mark Klein.

Outside the complex, Halloween decorations remained in the front yard and paper cutout bats were taped to the front window.

Clay Neal, 32, who lived in the apartment next to the victims', said the children were always outside riding bikes and playing games.

He arrived just as paramedics were taking a baby out of the building on a stretcher.

"It just brings tears to my eyes because all of the kids didn't make it," Neal said.

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Musicians' tomb offers resting place

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Lloyd Washington was a member of the legendary Ink Spots from 1945 into the late 1960s, but when he died in June his family couldn't afford to bury him. For months, his ashes were kept in a box at the Ernie K-Doe Mother-in-Law Lounge.

Thanks to another family of musicians, Washington now has a clearly marked tomb — and so will other musicians, rich or poor.

Descendants of jazz pioneer Isidore Barbare, who died in 1960, granted the Friends of New Orleans Cemeteries, a preservation group, the right to use six of the 18 vaults in the family mausoleum. Each vault can hold multiple urns or boxes of ashes.

The new resting place is called the New Orleans Musicians Tomb.

After a brief ceremony Saturday, two porcelain angels and a silver and black urn housing Washington's remains were placed in the tomb, which also holds the remains of drummer Lucien Barker and trumpeter Charles Barker — both descendants of Barbare.

"This is the beginning of something big," said Paul Barbare, 73, with his sister, Marie Barbare Baptiste, granted use of the tomb.

"People are going to start doing what we're doing. Believe me, they're going to start doing it because there are so many (musical) graves coming out of New Orleans, and they need a place to rest," Barbare said.

In final week, Bush, Kerry spend \$400 million on ads

BY LIZ SIDOTI

The Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio — President Bush, Sen. John Kerry and their political parties are spending nearly \$400 million on TV ads in the final week of the presidential campaign as they adjust their strategies in a shrinking battleground.

It's a staggering amount, even considering the unprecedented level of advertising in the presidential race this year. By Nov. 2, the candidates and their parties will have spent more than \$400 million on TV and radio ads since the air war started in March.

Independent liberal and conservative

groups will have spent at least \$100 million.

Shifting their resources and their priorities, Bush is scaling back advertising in historically Democratic Maine, while Kerry is not slated to run any TV commercials in GOP-leaning Colorado this week. It's a signal that both are all but abandoning their bids to put those states back in their win columns. Four years ago, Bush won Colorado and Democrat Al Gore won Maine.

Kerry, in a show of confidence, also is cutting his spending in Michigan and Oregon, both won by Gore in 2000.

The president plans to roll out new ads focusing on the war on terror and the econ-

omy, and close his campaign with an emotional appeal for his re-election, aides said. Kerry plans a final series of ads in which he offers messages hopeful about the future and sharply critical of Bush.

In the final week, Bush, Kerry and their parties are to continue focusing the bulk of their money and attention on nine toss-up states: Florida, Ohio, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Nevada and Minnesota.

Overall, Bush and the Republican National Committee plan to run about \$18 million worth of advertisements for the next week, while Kerry and his party are slated to spend roughly \$21 million.

Of that, both sides are spending about

\$4.5 million apiece in Florida, at least \$2.5 million in Ohio and \$2 million in Pennsylvania. All three electorally rich states have many media markets, including some of the most expensive.

Meanwhile, anti-Kerry groups are scheduled to spend another \$12 million on ads meant to help Bush, far more than the \$3 million or so Democratic groups are planning to spend.

The candidates and their parties still could add money to their buys as they shift resources in the final week.

Polls show the race extraordinarily tight and the candidates are massaging their state-by-state strategies to determine how to reach the 270 electoral votes needed to claim the White House.

Some women governors' spots on line this election

BY ROBERT TANNER

The Associated Press

Nine women governors — a record — now hold office. But bruising terms, party politics and tough, well-funded competition in this fall's elections combine to make holding onto that high point a challenge.

For women politicians and those who strive to see women equally represented in state capitals, Congress and the White House, this year's struggle underscores how far the nation's political culture has moved in the past few decades — and how far it has to go.

"This has changed so dramatically and so quickly," said Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, a Democrat and the state's second woman governor. "It opens doors, not only for future generations, but also it begins to change the mind-set of the American electorate."

Besides her state, women now govern Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana and Utah.

Some argue that electing women to office brings important life experiences and perspectives otherwise missing from the political world. That argument aside, others say, women should be represented as equals as their 50.1 percent of the population.

"We have the obligation to look at the full spectrum," said Gov. Olene Walker of Utah, who made a name for herself on housing



Utah Gov. Olene Walker signs a declaration during a news conference in this Sept. 16 photo in Salt Lake City. Nine women governors, a record, now hold office.

and education but rejects "categorizing" issues. "Men need to be as involved in education as women."

Some activists focus on the grass roots, encouraging women to run for school board, city council, state legislature. Many look higher, rueful that there hasn't been a woman on a major-party presidential ticket since Democrat Geraldine Ferraro as vice president in 1984.

The success of women as governors offers hope, possibly even more than the 74 women among the 535 members of Congress, including a record 14 in the Senate.

"It's breaking a boundary and a barrier that's important for women's general progress in politics," said Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University.

"We've gotten comfortable with women in legislatures," an arena of compromise and negotiation like Congress, Walsh said. "That's our stereotype of women, that they work well with others. Now we've got women as chief executives, where the buck stops" — akin to the presidency, she said.

It was only 1975 when the nation first saw a woman elected governor (Connecticut's Ella Grasso) in her own right, without following a husband. Republican M. Jodi Rell became that state's second woman governor in July after John Rowland resigned amid a federal corruption investigation and threats of impeachment.

It was just two years ago that the nation hit a record when six women were in governors' offices. Since then, the rise to nine has brought only scant attention.

Candidate's contribution to own run prompts law

BY ROBERT WELLER

The Associated Press

DENVER — A \$500,000 donation by Republican beer baron Pete Coors to his own Senate campaign has triggered a new federal law that eases fund-raising restrictions for his Democratic opponent.

Called the "millionaire amendment," the law was designed to make sure wealthy candidates did not have too much of an advantage in election campaigns.

Coors spokesman Cinamon Watson confirmed Sunday that Coors had made the donation Friday.

"Extreme environmentalists and lawyers have dumped millions in to attack Pete Coors. I think all Coloradoans would agree that when you are attacked in that manner you have to defend yourself," Watson said.

A spokesman for state Attorney General Ken Salazar, Coors' opponent, said Coors already had donated about \$550,000 to the campaign, and Friday's donation put him well over the threshold limit of \$571,000.

"When times get tough for American families they can't bail themselves out with million-dollar checks," said Salazar spokesman Jim Carpenter. "But, in a last-ditch effort to rescue his struggling campaign, Peter Coors is now trying to buy this election with an 11th-hour infusion of his personal wealth."

Carpenter said donors, previously limited to \$2,000, could now give \$6,000 to Salazar's campaign, which has raised about \$7.5 million.

Watson said Coors had raised \$7 million. The latest poll of registered voters showed Salazar with 47 percent and Coors with 43 percent; the margin of error was four points.

So far this campaign year, only a few general election candidates have triggered the spending rule, the limits of which vary depending on the population. The Coors' campaign surpassed Salazar when it surpassed the limit, Carpenter said.

Candidates in House races in Missouri and Ohio and a Senate race in Maryland have paid enough of their own money into their campaigns to allow their opponents to make use of the new rule.

Glance at women in the governor's office

The Associated Press

Two women are running to become governor, while nine women already hold governorships.

Seeking to become governor:
MISSOURI: Democratic state Auditor Claire McCaskill is running against Republican Matt Blunt, secretary of state. McCaskill defeated Democratic Gov. Bob Holden in the primary. If elected, she would be the state's first woman governor.

WASHINGTON STATE: State Attorney General Christine Gregoire is running against former state Sen. Dino Rossi, a Republican.

Women governors now serving: Only Delaware has a gubernatorial election this year. **ARIZONA:** Democratic Gov. Janet Napolitano, a former state attorney general and U.S. attorney. Won office in 2002.

CONNECTICUT: Republican Gov. M. Jodi Rell, former lieutenant governor and legislator. She assumed office in July after former GOP Gov. John Rowland resigned amid threats of impeachment and a federal corruption investigation.

DELAWARE: Democratic Gov. Ruth Ann Minner, the state's first woman governor, seeks a second term. She faces retired judge insurance commissioner's daughter of the gubernatorial nomination.

HAWAII: GOP Gov. Linda Lingle, the state's first female governor and first Republican in 40 years. The former mayor of Maui and state GOP chairwoman won office in 2002.

KANSAS: Democratic Gov. Kathleen Sebelius won office in 2002. The former state insurance commissioner is the daughter of a former Ohio governor and senator, John "Jack" Gilligan.

LOUISIANA: Democratic Gov. Kathleen Blanco, the state's first female governor. The former lieutenant governor won office in 2003.

MICHIGAN: Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm, the state's first woman governor. The former state attorney general won election in 2002.

MONTANA: Republican Gov. Judy Martz, the state's first woman governor. The former lieutenant governor won election in 2000. She chose not to seek re-election after a bruising first term.

UTAH: Republican Gov. Olene Walker, the state's first woman governor. The former lieutenant governor took office in 2003 after former GOP Gov. Mike Leavitt joined the Bush administration. She lost her bid for re-election at the state GOP convention when Republicans chose a more conservative candidate.

Violent crime is down, says FBI

Annual crime report shows a three percent decrease from 2002 to 2003

BY CURT ANDERSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Violent crime fell last year, with only a slight uptick in murders marring the overall trend of fewer crimes across the country, the FBI said Monday in its annual crime report.

There were just under 1.4 million crimes of murder, manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault in 2003, 3 percent fewer than 2002 and a decline of more than 25 percent from 1994.

The 2003 figure translates to a rate of 475 violent crimes for every 100,000 Americans, a 3.9 percent decrease from the previous year, the FBI report said. Aggravated assaults, which make up two-thirds of all violent crimes, have dropped for 10 straight years.

Murder was the only violent crime that increased in 2003, with the 16,503 slayings reported by police to the FBI representing a 1.7 percent hike from the year before. Nearly eight in 10 murders victims last year were male and 90 percent were adults.

Property crimes such as bur-

glary, theft and theft of motor vehicles dropped slightly, with the overall total of 10.4 million crimes in 2003 representing a decline of less than 1 percent.

The property crime rate for 2003 was 3,588 crimes per 100,000 Americans, a 1.2 percent decline.

The FBI's annual Uniform Crime Reporting Program statistics largely mirror those of other government studies that show crime at historically low levels. The Justice Department's annual survey of crime victims, released in September, found the nation's crime rate at its lowest point since such studies began in 1973.

The drop in crime has made it far less of a political issue.

Attorney General John Ashcroft said the numbers demonstrate the success of initiatives as stepped-up federal prosecution of gun crimes, arrest of more drug offenders and longer prison sentencing policies for repeat offenders. Violent crime, he said, has dropped 6 percent since 2000.

The FBI report is based on crime statistics submitted by 17,000 state and local law enforcement agencies around the country. The report also showed that

■ Violent crime in cities dropped 3.9 percent compared with 2002 and 3.7 percent in less metropolitan areas.

■ Excluding traffic stops, law enforcement agencies made 13.6 million arrests in 2003, or about 4.65 arrests for every 100 Americans. In 2002, those agencies solved about 46 percent of violent crimes, including about 62 percent of murders.

■ Nearly 71 percent of the 2003 murders involved use of a firearm, with 13 percent involving knives or other cutting instruments. Blunt objects, hands and feet also were used.

■ Property crimes cost victims about \$17 billion last year, including \$6.6 billion in motor vehicle thefts.

Three die in sinking car



Police look over a sports utility vehicle along the Passaic River in Newark, N.J., on Sunday, near where three women drowned after they drove off a Newark city street and landed in the river. Investigators are trying to determine what caused the driver to lose control, police said. The women were returning from a birthday party when the driver lost control of a Jeep Cherokee and plunged into the river. The women called a friend on a cell phone but were unable to describe their exact location. Witnesses called 911 but police conceded that they might not have been able to save the trio even if they knew the exact location due to the depth of the water.

Pressure mounts for reporters to reveal confidential sources

BY SETH SUTEL
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — With several reporters facing possible jail sentences and fines, there are signs mounting legal pressure on journalists to reveal confidential sources is having a chilling effect on newsgathering.

Clark Hoyt, the Washington editor of Knight Ridder, the nation's second-largest newspaper company, said he has seen two examples in recent weeks of sources declining to provide information after initially agreeing to do so confidentially.

The sources feared they might be investigated, or that their identities could be discovered from a subpoena of the reporter's phone records, Hoyt

said. "I think there is no question that there is greater anxiety among sources about talking to journalists," he said.

The ability of reporters to gather sensitive information confidentially received another challenge Thursday, when a federal judge

but by the government against her husband, former Ambassador Joseph Wilson, for writing a newspaper opinion column criticizing President Bush's claim that Iraq had sought uranium in Niger.

Some reporters gave testimony after government officials released them from pledges of confidentiality, but Judith Miller of The New York Times and Time magazine's Matt Cooper were both found in contempt of court for declining to disclose their sources.

Appeals are pending, but the two face possible penalties including jail time.

Use of the waivers has frightened at least one source for a Hearst reporter, Eve Burton, the general counsel for Hearst Corp., which owns 12 newspapers across the country, said a reporter's source recently warned he would never release the journalist from a pledge of confidentiality.

"My response back as a lawyer is that you ought to be sure that this is a story you're willing to go to jail for," Burton said.

There are other recent examples of pressure on reporters to divulge sources. Five reporters, including one from The Associated Press, were held in contempt last summer in a civil case brought against the government by former nuclear physicist Wen Ho Lee.

Fines were levied; payments were suspended pending appeals. Much of the recent legal action against reporters has occurred in federal courts, where there is no clear law protecting journalists from revealing confidential sources. Such "shield" laws exist in 31 states.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro	\$1.3150
British pound	78.49
Japanese yen (Oct. 25)	106.00
South Korean (Oct. 23)	1,112.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.37099
British pound	78.49
Canada (Dollar)	1.3242
Denmark (Krone)	5.48
Egypt (Pound)	6.23
Euro	\$1.3150
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.856
Hungary (Forint)	193.20
Israel (Shekel)	4.432
Japan (Yen)	107.26
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2940
Norway (Krone)	6.924
Philippines (Peso)	68.24
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.59
Switzerland (Dollar)	1.4651
Switzerland (Franc)	1.13
Thailand (Baht)	41.32
Turkey (Lira)	1,477,000.00
Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the case of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Philippines and the United States. For nonmilitary currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign exchange rates to one dollar, except for the dollar-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.	

PRECIOUS METALS

London close	
Gold	\$427.70
Silver	\$7.33

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.75
Federal funds market rate	1.75
3-month bond	1.84
30-year bond	4.75
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America.	

Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

AOL offers movie service

CBS MarketWatch

Subscribers to America Online's broadband service are now able to download movies free from the video-on-demand service Movielink. The companies announced Thursday that they extended an existing agreement, which give AOL members access to movie downloads for 99 cents each.

In the next month, 10 "classic titles" will be made available at

no cost, including "Steel Magnolias" and "Charade." In subsequent months, five films will be offered.

AOL said its deal, allowing 99-cent rentals, boosted the movie service's downloads by 15 percent. "We've steadily seen increased usage among the AOL for Broadband community," said Steve Yee, vice president and general manager of AOL Movies and MovieOne.

"I think there is no question that there is greater anxiety among sources about talking to journalists."

Clark Hoyt

Washington editor of Knight Ridder/Tribune

OPINION

Debates left some fertile ground uncovered

In the final inning of a seemingly endless presidential playoff, at least three issues surprisingly remain outside the ballpark.

It is extraordinary that John Kerry huddled during wartime with enemy officials opposite whom U.S. diplomats negotiated for peace. Kerry did so in May 1970, while an inactive Navy Reserve officer, even as Hanoi killed GIs and tortured U.S. POWs.

"I have been to Paris," Kerry told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on April 22, 1971. "I have talked with both delegations at the peace talks, that is to say the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government and of all eight of Madame Binh's points." These were, respectively, North Vietnam, the Viet Cong's political wing, and its delegate, Madame Nguyen Thi Binh.

Kerry was free to protest the Vietnam War at home. But communicating with hostile powers while Henry Kissinger confronted them at the bargaining table could not have advanced U.S. foreign policy. Nor did Kerry's July 1971 press conference endorsing verbatim the Viet Cong's peace proposal. "I realize that even my visits in Paris," Kerry testified, "are on the borderline of private individuals negotiating."

Oops.

Kerry's Paris sojourn may have broken the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and self-evidently violated the 1799 Logan Act's prohibition on freelance diplomacy, and the Constitution's Article III, Section 3 structures against giving "Aid and Comfort" to America's enemies.

Imagine a Navy Reserve officer traveling to the Pakistan-Afghan frontier to sip tea with Osama bin Laden. He surely would come home to handcuffs. Yet, after tampering with actual peace negotiations, Kerry seeks the presidency.

The words "mass graves" went unuttered across three debates. Friends and foes of Operation Iraqi Freedom should applaud this: The American-led coalition disabled Saddam Hussein's mass-graves program.

So far, investigators have identified at least 270 graves; others could hold an estimated 290,000 people. Reporters recently toured a site containing more than 200 corpses in al-Hatra. ... These innocents were shored into the ground Nazi-style — with bulldozers.

Iraqi mass graves are now bad memories, not current nightmares. Inexplicably, President Bush barely mentions this huge humanitarian victory, something Kerry would concede. They both should address this matter. Graham Allison's new book, "Nuclear Terrorism," features this chilling comment from al-Qaida spokesman Saleem bin Abu Ghath: "We have the right to kill 4 million Americans — 2 million of them children — and to exile twice as many and wound and cripple hundreds of thousands."

Allison explains that al-Qaida blames Judeo-Christian infidels for the deaths of some 4 million Muslims due to, as Islamofas-



cists believe, America's posture toward Iraq since Gulf War I, the Taliban's ouster, Israel's Palestinian policy, etc. ...

Four million American deaths would equal a horror-movie version of Bill Murray's film "Groundhog Day." Every morning would be Sept. 11 for 1,343 days. Al-Qaida never could hijack that many jets. Allison imagines more efficient methods.

"Detonated in Times Square, a 10-kiloton weapon could kill 1 million New Yorkers. And why should bin Laden or other terrorists stop with one? Four nuclear explosions,

in New York, Washington, Chicago, and Los Angeles, could achieve al Qaeda's gruesome goal of killing 4 million Americans."

Bush and Kerry should speak up about al-Qaida's desires to recreate in America two-thirds of what Hitler heaped upon European Jewry, only with the terrible, swift swords of suitcase nukes or homemade A-bombs. ... These questions merit greater discussion by candidates and voters alike before Nov. 2.

New York commentator Deroy Murdock is a columnist for Scripps Howard News Service.

Government's Stern rebuke is community's gain

The moans emanating from the airwaves these days are coming from AM-FM radio executives stunned by the in-your-face denunciation of Howard Stern, the trashy disc jockey who has become fabulously wealthy as an icon for millions of Americans whose taste starts at the knees and ends at the neckline.

Stern, as everyone knows by now, is taking his daily scatological meanderings to another venue, satellite subscription radio, where those who "get off" (to use one of his expressions) on gutter talk and juvenile stunts can pay for the privilege of listening to him convince young women to disrobe in his studio. How exciting. Well, they are certainly welcome to him, all 12 million of them. In fact, it is safe to say that the base rate plus premium packages charged by XM and Sirius, the two main satellite players, ultimately will rival those of Comcast and Cox and the rest of the big players in the viewing arts.

Then there is the question of government regulation, which is the reason Stern signed off of free radio and on to pay, a contract for \$500 million. There already is a clamor in Congress to start regulating cable content as it broadcasts TV and radio with substantial fines for indecent material. The FCC just lev-

ied some severe fines on Fox stations for pushing the limit of decency. If the guys who dreamed up subscription radio aren't aware that some of that attention now will be diverted to their enterprises, they have been blinded by the prospect of those dazzling Stern interviews with pornography stars.

But old Howard knows that the matter then becomes a First Amendment issue and such any successful assault on his right to talk dirty to a paying audience will take a great many more years than he has left, if it could survive the constitutional challenges, which is doubtful.

Look at all the smut channels one can buy on cable and the mainliners such as HBO, which airs shows with degenerate killer heroes whose utterances are limited to "youse" punctuated fore and aft by the "F" word. Besides, Stern understands how to get in on the bottom floor of a good thing, having had a couple of decades of experience at a much lower level than that.

But he isn't going to be a pioneer in the new enterprise despite his silly messianic claims that his action will spell the end of AM and FM. A team of Stern knockoffs, who once did a running commentary of a couple having sex in a church, is already on board XM, which now has three times as many subscribers as Sirius, Stern's new employer.

It will be fascinating to see how many regular Stern listeners are willing to fork over the monthly fee when he switches from Infinity Broadcasting in 16 months.

This isn't a general condemnation of paid radio. For those who can afford it, the satellite concept offers a variety of music and other interesting programming, including news. Nor is it meant to criticize Sirius for signing Stern. Actually, it is a good solution.

It is where he belongs and it relieves the pressure on parents who don't want their youngsters listening to him but have been almost powerless to do anything about it. That is until they complained loudly enough

about his offensiveness that Congress and the FCC had to pay attention, especially after the Janet Jackson Super Bowl flash. Keeping him around ultimately was going to cut substantially into the \$100 million in revenue he allegedly generates each year.

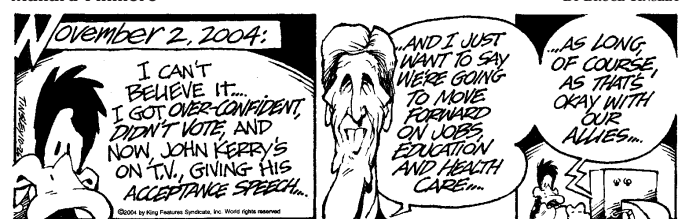
That amount alone attests overwhelmingly to the commercial value of pandering to the basest tastes. Stern has lived on the edge of "prevailing community standards" (to borrow a Supreme Court phrase) for a long time, surviving a number of firings always to rise even higher. One day it is conceivable he will crash off a cliff of political correctness from which there is no recovery, as have several of his imitators. That day probably has been put off by his decision.

Meanwhile, he is laughing all the way to the bank.

His soon-to-be former employers should welcome his departure.

Don Thomas is former editor of Scripps Howard News Service.

Mallard Fillmore



'Smart' building designs conserve energy

BY ELLEN SIMON
The Associated Press

At Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, the lights are controlled by sensors that measure sunlight. They dim immediately when it's sunny and brighten when a passing cloud blocks the sun.

At a new middle school in Washington, D.C., the air conditioner shuts off when a window is open.

A wall of windows at a University of Pennsylvania engineering building has built-in blinds adjusted by a computer program that tracks the sun's path.

Buildings are getting smarter — and the next generation of building materials is expected to do even more.

Windows could trap the sun's energy to heat hot water. Sensors that measure the carbon dioxide exhaled by the people in a room could determine whether the air conditioning needs to be turned up.

"More potential products have been invented in the last 15 years than in the entire prior history of architecture," says Philadelphia architect Stephen Kieran. "We're only beginning to tap the potential of those materials."

The new materials and technology are being used in a wave of buildings designed

High-tech architecture uses sunlight, sensors to help cut costs

to save as much energy as possible. They range from old ideas, like "green roofs," where a layer of plants on a roof helps the building retain heat in winter and stay cool in summer, and new ideas, like special coating for windows that lets light in, but keeps heat out.

Most commercial buildings in the United States still lack the most rudimentary technology, such as timers for lights, but the idea of buildings that use technology to save energy got a boost from the 2000 energy crisis, when California experienced blackouts and electricity prices rose.

That year, the U.S. Green Building Council launched a program to accredit building professionals in environmental design. Interest in the program, called LEED, for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, has skyrocketed. Since 2000, about 19,000 people have been accredited, 9,000 in the last month alone.

About 4 percent of new commercial construction is now completed under LEED guidelines, said Taryn Holowka, a spokes-

woman for the Green Building Council.

Many new building materials are first developed in Europe, where energy is more expensive. "The construction industry is behind the times in some ways, compared to many other industries," said Patrick Mays, chief information officer of architecture firm NBBJ.

"More potential products have been invented in the last 15 years than in the entire prior history of architecture."

Stephen Kieran
architect

Smart building technology in the United States was formerly reserved for large projects and college campuses.

"Now we're seeing it make its way down, even to the residential market," said Jim Jones, an architecture professor at Virginia Tech. Think of the motion-sensing lights common outside garages and front doors.

As technologies such as sensors become cheaper, their uses spread. The elevators at Seven World Trade Cen-

ter, which is under construction at New York's ground zero, use a dispatch system that groups people traveling to nearby floors into the same elevator, thereby saving elevator stops and trips. People who work in the building will enter it by swiping ID cards that will tell the elevators their floor; readouts will then tell them which elevator to use.

The building also has windows with a coating that blocks heat while letting in light. More sophisticated building materials are in development.

Architect Stephen Kieran's firm is working on "smart wrap" that uses tiny solar collectors to trap the sun's energy and transmitters the width of a human hair to move it.

"The materials in smart wrap are either commercially available or they've been developed in corporate or university research labs," said Kieran, a partner at Kieran Timberlake in Philadelphia. "They're poised to change the face of the construction industry in the next decade or so."

School helps teens plunge into studies Aquarium program takes on tough cases

BY NOREEN GILLESPIE
The Associated Press

MYSTIC, Conn. — This chemistry lesson takes a strong stomach: It starts with grinding up fish in a big blender.

At first, 15-year-old Sarah Lenney was nervous. Her partner, 17-year-old Stephen Furlong, admits it's something he never thought he would do in school. But they break into devilish grins as they explain their work.

"It was kind of gross yesterday, because we had to touch it with our hands," Furlong laughs, pointing to containers filled with chloroform-scented fish parts.

Instead of a traditional classroom setting, high school students participating in an alternative program at Mystic Aquarium and Institute for Exploration are getting a hands-on learning experience alongside beluga whales, sharks and other marine life.

Though other alternative programs exist in Connecticut, many are aimed at students with behavioral problems or are already full.

Not so at Mystic. The WAVES program — which stands for Wheeler's Aquarium Vocational Experience for Students — tailors its coursework to give students a second chance at success.

The participants — eight students from the Stonington, North Stonington and Preston school districts — don't have behavior problems, but have not been able to grasp reading, writing and arithmetic. Most are substantially behind in credits. Before coming to Mystic, some were at risk of dropping out.

"I call them my square pegs in a round hole," said Natalie Pukis, superintendent of North Stonington Schools, which operates the program with Mystic. "They are the kids that



Justin Risica, left, learns about beluga whales from trainer Justin Richard at Mystic Aquarium on Wednesday in Mystic, Conn. Risica is one of eight participants in an alternative high school program at the aquarium.

have the ability to succeed, they have the talent. But somewhere, they've lost the will and the motivation, or we failed to meet their needs."

The school day starts later, at 9 a.m., giving students more time to get out of bed and get to class. Afternoons are spent at the aquarium, where students work as staff interns in the aquarium's departments for animal care, public education, food service, human resources and lab research. They also move through online distance learning courses at their own pace.

"We tell them they are the captains of their own ship," said teacher Cheryl Bieker, a 19-year special education veteran who runs the program. "They really are in charge of their destiny here."

Lenney and Furlong's research inside the chemistry lab is playing an important role, and eventually will help the aquarium establish the proper diet for its marine life.

"They may think they're doing this just for their own benefit to learn, but I'm actually

using them to get the method up and running," said Lisa Mazzaro, a researcher who oversees the lab.

Another student, 16-year-old Natalie Browne, attended summer school several times, but earned only enough credits to be a sophomore. She hopes to graduate with her class next year at Wheeler High School in North Stonington.

"I love it," she said, after a half-hour session learning about beluga whale behavior. "It's so different because we work independently, and there's nobody breathing over my shoulder."

Deborah Browne said her instinct told her that her daughter just needed a different way to learn.

Costing \$120,000 for the first year, district officials hope to eventually expand the program.

Back in the lab, Lenney and Furlong carefully weigh samples of lipids and record the numbers in a log. There's a lot of work to do before tomorrow.

The next task: analyzing penguin blood.

Simpson sister flubs 'SNL' song

BY CRISTINA SILVA AND
ADAM LISBERG
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Ashlee Simpson was a lip-syncing laughing-stock Sunday after she got caught using prerecorded vocals on live TV.

In a humiliating appearance on "Saturday Night Live," Simpson held a microphone at her hip while her voice boomed from the speakers — then inexcusably

blamed her band for making her look like a karaoke coward.

Simpson

was expecting to "sing" her song "Autobiography," so she and her band looked confused when her hit "Pieces of Me" started playing instead — complete with vocal track.

She awkwardly tried to dance away from the moment, then quickly exited stage left, while the band gamely tried to play along until her voice abruptly cut to a commercial.

At show's end, Simpson used her last few seconds of airtime to pass the musical buck.

"I feel so bad! My band started playing the wrong song! And I didn't know what to do! She squealed. "I'm sorry! It's live TV! Things happen! I'm sorry!"

IN THE WORLD



Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao welcomes Secretary of State Colin Powell on Monday during a meeting in Beijing.

Powell urges China-Taiwan talks

BY GEORGE GEDDA
The Associated Press

BELING — U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell encouraged Chinese leaders on Monday to resume a dialogue with Taiwan but suggested Beijing was not prepared to do so because of strong concerns about Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian's policies.

Powell also said the U.S. government would "continue to meet our responsibilities" in selling weapons to Taiwan, despite China's objections. And he blamed North Korea for holding up the resumption of six-nation talks aimed at ending that country's nuclear programs.

Chinese officials told Powell they believe it's possible for the talks to resume in the next few months. North Korea boycotted a meeting that was to have taken place in September.

China has been in close touch with North Korean officials on the disarmament question.

After meeting with President Hu Jintao and other top officials in Beijing, Powell also expressed disappointment with China's recent performance on human rights issues

but said China was willing to restart talks on rights issues that were broken off last year.

Powell made the comments at a news conference in China's capital, his second stop on a three-nation tour of East Asia. He left China late Monday and arrived in the South Korean capital, Seoul, where he is due to hold talks with senior officials on Tuesday. He visited Japan on Sunday.

On Taiwan, he said the Chinese officials renewed their objections to U.S. arms sales to Taiwan.

The Taiwanese legislature is weighing a proposed \$1.6 billion arms package that includes planes, submarines and Patriot missiles.

But Powell noted that U.S. federal law requires Washington to supply Taiwan's democratically elected government with weapons needed to defend itself.

"We will continue to meet our responsibilities," Powell said at his news conference. "We very carefully balance responsibilities that we have to China and responsibilities that we have to Taiwan under our own domestic law."

Powell said he encouraged the Chinese to keep an open mind and to take advantage of any opportunity that comes along "for dialogue with Taiwan."

Moderates win Kosovo elections

BY GARENTINA KRAJA
The Associated Press

PRISTINA, Serbia-Montenegro — A moderate ethnic Albanian party led by Kosovo's current president, Ibrahim Rugova, won weekend general elections that were overshadowed by a Serb boycott, partial results released Monday showed.

Rugova's Democratic League of Kosovo won 45.3 percent of the vote, according to preliminary results.

That margin, however, was not large enough for the party to rule alone.

Rugova's party was followed by former rebel leader Hashim Thaci's Democratic Party of Kosovo, which finished second with 26.65 percent of the vote.

The initial results mirror the lineup of the last election three years ago. The outcome in 2001 resulted in a political stalemate for more than three months, with the parties unable to agree to a power-sharing deal.

Egyptians ID bombers

CAIRO, Egypt — A Palestinian angered by Israeli-Palestinian violence plotted and then died in the nearly simultaneous car bombings of a hotel and tourist camps in the Sinai that killed at least 34 people, the Egyptian government said Monday.

In a statement, the Interior Ministry added five Egyptians had been arrested and two remained at large in the plot.

The Interior Ministry identified the mastermind as Ayad Said Saleh, a Palestinian who had lived in the Sinai and who died in the Oct. 7 explosion at the hotel along with a fellow plotter, Egyptian Suleiman Ahmed Saleh Fayyil. The statement said the two, identified through DNA testing, had been trying to leave the scene but their timed explosives went off prematurely.

From The Associated Press



An elderly man is rescued Sunday in Yamakoshi in northwestern Japan. The area was hard hit by a series of strong earthquakes.

Workers in Japan strive to get aid to quake victims

BY ERIC TALMADGE
The Associated Press

NAGAOKA, Japan — Emergency workers struggled to rush food and blankets to crowded evacuation centers as strong aftershocks jolted northern Japan on Monday.

The weekend quakes killed 25 people and drove some 100,000 from their homes.

A 5.6-magnitude aftershock hit just after dawn Monday, swaying buildings and deepening fears that the area's already shaky infrastructure would sustain more damage. Several other, smaller aftershocks were felt through the night, and Japan's Meteorological Agency warned of more quakes in the region.

Rain began falling on the region late Monday, threatening to unleash mudslides as it pelted soil loosened by the earthquakes.

Officials said some public buildings following Saturday evening's 6.8-magnitude tremor, which knocked down houses, ripped through roads and bridges and derailed a high speed train in rural Niigata, about 160 miles northwest of Tokyo.

Much of the region remained without water, electricity or gas Monday morning. Officials struggled over ruined roadways to fill

a shortfall in food supplies in the area and bring blankets, needed to brave near-freezing nighttime temperatures.

In Nagakoka, the largest city in the quake zone, homeless residents pitched tents in a neighborhood park and lined up with cans and bottles in front of a water truck that arrived for the first time early Monday.

"The aftershocks are still strong, so we felt it was safer to stay here even though our house wasn't all that badly damaged," said Masako Tsubota.

The national government in Tokyo said it was shipping another 10,000 blankets to the area. Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said he wanted to visit the zone "as soon as possible."

U.S. Ambassador to Japan Howard Baker pledged \$50,000 in aid "as a symbol of the U.S. desire to do whatever it can to assist the government and people of Japan during this difficult time," the U.S. Embassy said in a statement.

Capt. Richard Dowdell, spokeswoman for U.S. Forces Japan at Yokota Air Base near Tokyo, said no damages or injuries were reported at U.S. bases in Japan.

Stripes reporter Jennifer Swan in Misawa, Japan, contributed to this report.

6 men convicted of sex abuse on Pitcairn Island

BY MIKE CORDER
The Associated Press

SYDNEY, Australia — Six men have been convicted of charges ranging from rape to incest assault following trials that exposed a culture of sexual abuse on their small Pacific island, home to descendants of the 18th-century mutineers from the British ship H.M.S. Bounty.

Among those convicted late Sunday was the mayor of Pitcairn Island, Steve Christian, who claims to be a direct descendant of mutiny leader Fletcher Christian. He was cleared of four incest assaults and one rape but convicted of five other rapes.

The verdicts were read by judges sent from

New Zealand for the trials, which began Sept. 30 in a makeshift court in the island's community hall. Sentences were expected to be announced later this week, British authorities said Monday.

Islanders have expressed concern that if the men are imprisoned, there will be no one to crew a long boat that serves as the island's lifeline — transporting freight and passengers to and from passing ships that cannot dock along the rocky shore.

In all, seven men faced more than 50 sex abuse charges, some dating back 40 years. One man was acquitted and between them, the others were found guilty of 35 of the charges, said Bryan Nicolson of the British High

Commission in Wellington, New Zealand.

Prosecutors, building their case on the testimony of eight women, painted a picture of a male-dominated society in which underage sex was commonplace.

But some of the island's women came out in defense of the men, saying that while underage sex did happen, it was consensual and important to the island's survival. Pitcairn has a permanent population of just 47.

The convicted men could be sentenced to prison time in the island's newly built cell block. But they will continue to be free pending the outcome of an appeal by defense lawyers against Britain's jurisdiction over the remote island. That case is expected to be heard next year in New Zealand.

No Lance wristbands

VA VIRGINIA BEACH — When do simple yellow wristbands constitute jewelry? When they are worn by high school athletes, the Virginia High School League contends.

School administrators reversed themselves earlier this month and said members of the cross country team could wear the popular LiveStrong bands. Now they're saying no to the \$1 bands, which help the Lance Armstrong Foundation provide information to cancer survivors.

School officials clarified the policy to principals, coaches and students. They said the school division could face sportsmanship violations or monetary fines from the League if students continued to wear the bands during athletic events.

Drunken driving murder

TX FORT WORTH — A drunk driver who was convicted of murder for killing the father of infant twins was sentenced to 35 years in prison.

Jake Aaron Strickland had just left a downtown Fort Worth nightclub Dec. 21 when he drove on the wrong side of the road and, at 70 mph, struck Julie and Brent Jones' vehicle.

Brent Jones, 37, was killed and his wife was injured in the wreck on their way home from a Christmas party. At the time, the couple's twins were 9 months old and not in the car.

Minutes after Strickland's sentencing, Julie Jones told him she forgave him for killing her husband.

Teenager going to prison

OR EUGENE — A teenager charged with using Molotov cocktails to set fire to the car of a school administrator who disciplined him for smoking marijuana will serve up to eight years in a youth prison. A judge ordered Bruno Gartner Jr., 17, into the custody of MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility. Another teen, 17-year-old Joseph Gentile, was ordered last month into a residential reform program for up to a year. Gartner was ordered to pay \$8,700 in restitution to retired Sheldon High School Assistant Principal John Lindsley.

Drug sweep nets 17

NY SALAMANCA — Police arrested 17 people in an early morning drug sweep in a crack down on street-level marijuana and prescription drug sales, authorities said.

Dealers suspected of selling marijuana and prescription drugs, including hydrocodone, Ritalin, fentanyl, OxyContin and Percocet were targeted in Operation Street Sweeper, an 18-month investigation.

About 80 state troopers, sheriff's deputies and city police from the Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force made the arrests. Three people wanted on arrest warrants are still being sought.

Thirteen people were arrested in Salamanca, 50 miles south of



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Buffalo. Single arrests were made in Jamestown, Olean, Little Valley and Randolph.

Twelve of those arrested face felony grand jury indictments.

Shooter pleads guilty

FL WEST PALM BEACH — A man who shot a teenage prankster to death pleaded guilty to manslaughter and apologized to the boy's parents.

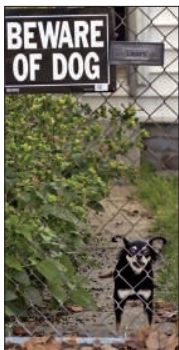
Jay Levin, 41, was sentenced to one year in jail, to be served on weekends only, and 10 years of probation. He was also ordered to leave the suburban Boca Raton neighborhood where he and the victim, Mark Drewes, lived.

Drewes, 16, and a friend were knocking on neighbors' doors and running away late at night when Levin said he mistook the 6-foot-2 teen for a burglar and "thought he saw something in Drewes' hand," according to sheriff's reports from the October 2003 shooting.

Levin, an accountant, answered the knock on his door armed with a handgun and shot the teen in the back, deputies said. He then called 911 and told a dispatcher he had just shot "an intruder."

Inmate guilty again

NY NEW YORK — A Staten Island man already impris-



Size doesn't matter

Size is not an issue for Mouse, a female long-haired Chihuahua who protects the side yard gate in Owensboro, Ky., for her owner, 79-year-old Mary Shannon.

oned for a 1987 kidnapping has been found guilty of a second abduction that took place more than 20 years ago.

On Tuesday, a jury convicted Andre Rand, 60, in the abduction of Holly Ann Hughes, who was reported missing in July 1981 after she went to buy soap in the Port Richmond section.

Rand was already serving 25 years to life at the Auburn Correctional Facility for the kidnapping of 12-year-old Jennifer Schweiger, who had Down syndrome.

At his sentencing Nov. 10, Rand could face an additional 25 years to life in prison.

Sex offender on ballot

NJ TRENTON — A Green Party candidate for Congress can stay on the ballot despite being on probation for a sex offense conviction, the state attorney's general office said.

Daryl Brooks is not disqualified from seeking the federal office by his crime or his inability to vote, the attorney's general office said.

The U.S. Constitution requires that House candidates be at least 25 years old, a U.S. citizen for at least seven years and a resident of the state they seek to represent.

Brooks could have been disqualified if he had sought state office. New Jersey requires such candidates to be registered voters, and people on probation are not allowed to vote.

Brooks was released from prison in 2002 after serving nearly four years for exposing himself to several girls in 1995.

Candidate stage fright

IN FORT WAYNE — An Indiana congressional candidate abruptly walked off the set of a debate because she said she got stage fright.

"I can't do this. I just can't do this. I'm sorry," Democrat Maria Parra, a 48-year-old insurance agent and political novice, said Thursday as she put an end to her only debate with Republican Rep. Mark Souder.

The debate was being taped by a TV station and was supposed to air this weekend.

Parra acknowledged that backing out would hurt her politically, but said she hoped people would understand.

Souder is heavily favored to win a sixth term.

Ban on train whistles

MA BOSTON — State Transportation Secretary Daniel Gabauskas said he will meet with safety regulators this week to discuss lifting train whistle bans at some rail crossings throughout the MBTA system in the wake of the death last week of a teenager at a Beverly crossing.

Eighth-grader David Siljeholm of Manchester-by-the-Sea was struck by a commuter train on the morning of Oct. 12 at the crossing near the Beverly Farms station after he rode his bicycle around the closed crossing gate. The boy's mother and sister were riding their bikes a short distance behind him, and were not injured.



All wrapped up and m
Shelbyville, Ky.; and Megan Cates
sity Homecoming Parade in front of



Getting nose-y
Mari-Jaym
Elementar
pressed by the giant nose that was o
is part of Grossology, an interactive v



Blast off!

With a loud roar and belching flames and clouds of smoke, Molly, a 13-foot-tall rocket built by Chuck Swindler of Chicago, lifts off the pad. The exhaust from the rocket blew a large hole in the ground and threw chunks of dirt in the air. Rocket blasters from all over the Midwest gathered north of Princeton, Ill., for the Midwest Power model rocket event.



A ghostly walk
Robert
Ghost W



owhere to go From left, Alpha Omicron Pi sorority members Sarah Tuell of Alpharetta, Ga.; Taylor King of Owensboro, Ky., wait for the start of the 2004 Western Kentucky University Cherry Hall in Bowling Green, Ky.



» Fox, 8 and a third-grader at Elmont y School in Topeka, Kan., was in- exhibit displayed at Union Station. The nose is based on Sylvia Browne's book.



Skating high Terry Smith, of Carson City, Nev., completes a kick flip at the Mills Park skatepark during the seventh annual Carson City Recreation and 702 Skateshop Skateboard Competition in Carson City.



Vagner, portraying Capt. Cox, a British officer in the Revolutionary War, waits for the next tour group at the annual talk held in historic downtown New Bern, N.C.



Now that's cool

Emanuel Arredondo, 2, looks at the falling snow from inside the Funhouse Central Daycare and Preschool in Great Falls, Mont.

Prisoner plane tips over

UT SALT LAKE CITY — An airliner loaded with 68 federal prisoners tipped over on a wing after mechanics jacked up a set of wheels to replace a worn tire at the airport. No one was injured.

The Boeing 727 was making a weekly stop in Salt Lake City to pick up federal prisoners and drop others off when mechanics began working on the plane.

Airport spokeswoman Barbara Gann said the plane was jacked up on asphalt not strong enough to handle the weight of a fully fueled Boeing 727. Mechanics also miscalculated the plane's center of gravity.

The inmates are being held in area jails while the plane is repaired.

Crossword prodigy

FL SEA RANCH LAKES — What two words are 12 letters long and mean precocious puzzlemaker? The answer is Kyle Howard, who at 17 is the youngest person to publish a Sunday crossword in The New York Times.

The teen began constructing crosswords for his school newspaper last year. That's after he was completing weekday Times puzzles less than four minutes. By February, major newspapers were picking up his submissions for up to \$350 a puzzle.

He's had puzzles in the Times on weekdays, but his first Sunday one appeared Sept. 19. His work also was in The Wall Street Journal and Los Angeles Times this year.

Celebrating John Wayne

IA WINTERSET — Big plans are in the works for John Wayne's birthplace in this central Iowa city. They include up to \$3 million for expansion of the complex that includes the tiny Victorian house where Wayne was born as Marion Morrison in 1907.

Organizers say a group is working on an application for a state grant to help with construction, which could start late next year.

That would put completion in 2007, in time to celebrate Wayne's 100th birthday. Wayne died of cancer in California in 1979.

Carbon monoxide deaths

NY NEW YORK — A woman, her daughter and granddaughter were found dead of apparent carbon monoxide poisoning in a Staten Island home, authorities said.

The names of the victims, ages 60, 36 and 7, were not immediately released. They were the only residents of the two-story frame house.

A friend of the family discovered the bodies.

Tests by firefighters revealed extremely high levels carbon monoxide inside the home. A cat, dog and pet birds also died.

Not blooming time

GA ATLANTA — You may not be able to fool Mother Nature, but she's fooling the magnolias.

This fall's changing climate has magnolia trees and other plants blooming at what is considered the wrong time of the year.

"It's not unusual to have some of our spring flowers, shrubs and trees come into bloom," said Jim

Midcap, a horticulturist with the University of Georgia Extension Service.

"Almost always, whenever we have a late-summer drought, things get stressed, and then you get wet conditions, dogwoods and magnolias come into bloom," Midcap said. "They get revitalized. They think spring has hit us again."

Racing class seeks loan

PA KUNKLESTOWN — A driving course for high-performance sports cars should not receive a low-interest state loan, a state senator said.

Sen. James Rhoades, R-Schuylkill, said he has asked the state to deny Richard Muller Jr.'s request for a loan of more than \$2 million to help pay for the \$25 million Alpine Rose Resort.

Muller got township permission to build the project on 350 acres near Blue Mountain. He said he applied to the state Department of Community and Economic Development for the money in 2002. The course would generate jobs and tax revenue for the area, he said.

Wreck victim overlooked

CO LONE TREE — The body of a woman missing for three days was discovered Saturday in a submerged car that had apparently been overlooked by police who investigated a multi-car wreck the day she disappeared.

A missing persons investigator found Quynh Tu Truong's car Friday in a pond in a residential development. The wreck had occurred near the pond early Wednesday morning, about 20 minutes after Truong had left work to go home.

Truong, 57, of Highlands Ranch, was identified through jewelry described by her family, said Douglas County sheriff's spokeswoman Coche Heyden.

A pickup truck slammed into what investigators thought were two cars, sending one through a fence and down the embankment. Heyden said there was a second opening in the fence, but there was no evidence that a car had gone through it.

The driver of the pickup truck was believed to have been under the influence of alcohol, she said.

Heater fire kills 3

MA SEEKONK — Three people died early Sunday in a fire at a Seekonk home caused by a portable electric heater, the state fire marshal said.

The fire was reported at about 2:25 a.m. at a two-story, wood-frame house on Taunton Avenue, State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan said.

The fire was an accident caused when an electric heater set fire to the bedding in a bedroom, he said.

Three people sleeping in three beds in the first-floor front bedroom were killed in the fire. He did not give a cause of death.

The identities of the victims haven't been released, pending notification of family.

There were no smoke detectors in the home, Coan said.

He urged people to install smoke detectors and to make sure they had live batteries, noting that no working smoke detectors had been found after another fire two weeks ago that killed five people.

Stories and photos from wire services

FACES

Calif. gov. introduces eco-friendly H2

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has introduced an environmentally friendly Hummer — but not the converted hydrogen-powered car he promised voters he would build when he campaigned for office.

Criticized by environmentalists for owning a gas-guzzler, Schwarzenegger said during last year's recall campaign that he would convert one of his Hummers to run on hydrogen.

Though he hasn't done that, the governor did introduce an alternative Friday — a hydrogen-powered Hummer custom-built by General Motors at his request.

The governor drove the shiny blue SUV to a hydrogen fueling spot at Los Angeles International Airport to tout his \$100 million plan for a "hydrogen highway" of such stations.

Schwarzenegger was the first person to buy a Hummer, a civilian version of the military vehicle that caught the public's attention during the Gulf War. GM estimates the latest version of the vehicle, the 6,400-pound H2, gets 10 to 13 miles per gallon.

Madonna heads cast of animated film

Madonna will head the voice cast of the big-budget animated film "Arthur," directed by Luc Besson, sources close to the movie told the Hollywood Reporter.

"Arthur" is adapted from a series of children's books written by Besson, who also wrote the screenplay for the movie.

Ten-year-old Arthur, in a bid to see his grandfather's house from developers, goes in search of treasure hidden in the land of the Minimoys, a tiny people living in harmony with nature.

Madonna was said to be voicing the part of Princess Selenia, a character who travels with Arthur to a mysterious forbidden city where an evil being dwells.

The film, scheduled for a 2006 release, will include some live-action sequences.

'Sopranos' cast member goes comedy

Another cast member of "The Sopranos" is headed to a prime-time comedy.

Steve Schirripa, who plays Bobby "Bacala" Baccalieri on the HBO series, has signed a deal with Disney's Touchstone TV to star in a comedy based on his book, "A Goomba's Guide to Life."

The production company is currently searching for a writer to adapt the book for television. The book is about stereotypes of Italian-Americans, or "goombas."

"The Sopranos" is scheduled to end its run after its next season.

Earlier this year, actress Drea de Matteo led the mob drama to star opposite Matt LeBlanc in his "Friends" spin-off, "Joey."

Mantle family angered by name change

Ready for "The Curse of the Mick"? The family of late Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle expressed its anger Friday at a decision to temporarily rename the Yankee slugger's eponymous restaurant — and even worse, to call the place "Ted Williams," after the Red Sox great — following Boston's victory over the Bronx Bombers.

The awning at the New York restaurant carried a makeshift paper sign reading "Ted Williams," covering the familiar "Mickey Mantle" lettering. The decision was made by the restaurant's owner, Bill Liederman, as an homage to the Bostonians.

"Mickey loved Ted, and we hold Ted's memory in the highest regard," said Mantle's widow, Merlyn. "But Mr. Liederman's conduct is disgraceful and an insult to Mickey's memory, and to the Yankees and their fans."

Mantle's sons, Danny and David, added that the move was made without consulting the family. Liederman had planned to keep the "Ted Williams" sign up through the World Series, but he took it down after receiving a stream of furious phone calls.

Photos and stories from The Associated Press

Red-hot singer gives some rockin' advice

'My own advice is to not take any of my advice. Ever. And no matter the audience, play music that speaks to you.' — Anthony Kiedis

BY COLLEEN LONG

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Anthony Kiedis sits at a table in a swank New York hotel, his breakfast consistently interrupted by adoring women coming over to caress his arms and kiss his cheek.

It's impossible to know if he just met them, because he treats each one as if he's known them forever, putting down his forkful of scrambled eggs with veggies to look directly into their eyes.

At 42, the Red Hot Chili Peppers lead singer is toned and hip, forearms blanketed with tattoos, wearing a yellow T-shirt with a naked woman on it. He's also incredibly calm and articulate. It's hard to believe he's the same crazed frontman who performed countless concerts wearing only a sock, had bones broken during a show, and nursed a nasty drug addiction for most of his life.

Kiedis spent three months putting his wild ways down on paper, and recently released a 500-page autobiography, "Scar Tissue" (Hyperion, \$24.95).

The book is an honest look at how heroin and cocaine nearly ruined his career and his life, and ended the lives of some of his best friends and bandmates. It also details the rise of the Chili Peppers, whose 1991 album "Blood Sugar Sex Magik" made the band a household name. Their 1999 album "Californication" sold more than 13 million copies worldwide, and 2002's "By The Way" peaked at No. 2 on the Billboard charts.

Kiedis has been clean for more than five years now, and is convinced he'll stay that way, though he says he's still obsessed with drugs. One relapse was caused after a trip to the dentist and some painkillers to take out a tooth. But this time he says he's changed the way he goes about life. He has become more focused on music than ever and expects great things from the band, which is recording a new album.

How do you draw the line between recreational drug and alcohol use and addiction?

I can't. That's my problem. I have a different reaction to drugs use for some reason. I never had to choose, really, and I suffered enormous heartbreak and repercussions for all this.

What made you stop?

I was so physically and mentally sick of feeling horrible all the time.

So what are you doing different now that you think you can stay clean for good?

The main thing I'm doing now is trying not to be such a self-centered pig. I try to follow suggestions without following the past. You have to look at it differently. Instead of the drive, the crazy need to get high, I try to think, "What can I do to be of service to the world?"

So what do you focus on now that you're not focusing on drugs?

When you're using, your days are very spelled out for you. It's a kind of

'Groundhog Day' way of life. You know what you're going after. Now I have freedom to create my days as I want to.

So, what do you do?

I have some kitchen rituals, like I make this big green concoction with all this good stuff, and I drink a strong pot of black tea and hang out with my dog by the pool.

Ever want to get married or have kids?

I think kids would be phenomenal, the biggest experience of a lifetime. But I've never been attracted to the type of woman who wanted to have that experience. I guess they're not such material types.

Why is that?

I don't know. Because I'm totally screwed up.

How has the band's sound changed?

I think it's been a natural progression as we've changed and learned more about being musicians. Because I was so ignorant and amateur when I started, I had to learn on the job. My learning curve started late, but I've finally gotten somewhere. You'll see a lot more harmony and intricate arrangements to our songs now.

You guys planning any more concerts wearing only socks?

Hey, if the moment demanded a sock. If people said "You're too old for that" or something where we need to do it, we'll do it just to shake things up.

Why did you decide to write a book? Was it difficult?

I've lived through a lot of adversity and struggle, and my friends got sick of my stories. I was so kind of tuned into the culture of the 1970s and 1980s and I wanted to share it. I thought I had something to say.

In the book, you say your father smoked pot with you when you were young; do you blame him for any of your drug troubles?

I don't think my dad knew any better. During that time, everyone wanted to turn everyone on to it; no one knew how bad it was. I don't blame people for my shortcomings and disasters. They're all mine.

Tell me about your relationship with Flea, the Chili Peppers' bassist?

You've been through a lot since you guys met in high school.

I've continued to be a strong and deep friendship though I didn't nourish it or love it as I should have. We've been through our ups and downs, the beauty of that friendship is that it remains.

Do you have any advice for young rockers?

My own advice is to not take any of my advice. Ever. And no matter the audience, play music that speaks to you.

Anthony Kiedis, singer for the music group Red Hot Chili Peppers, has led a typical rocker life. He's dealt with addictions and life on the road. At 42, he still continues to amaze his fans.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY HOUSTON RUCK, STARS AND STRIPES/AP



Schwarzenegger



Madonna



Schirripa



Iran: Uranium facility 70 percent complete

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI

The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — A uranium conversion facility in Iran is nearing completion, a top official said Sunday, only days after European countries offered a deal in which Iran would reportedly have to give up all nuclear activities.

State-run radio quoted Mohammad Ghannadi, second in charge of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, as saying the Isfahan uranium conversion facility in central Iran was nearing completion.

The Isfahan UCF facility is operational by 70 percent right

now," Ghannadi told 12 lawmakers during a visit to the plant, which Iranian officials said was inaugurated in March.

Ghannadi was quoted as saying 21 of 24 workshops have been commissioned at the facility, which converts uranium powder called yellow cake into hexafluoride gas, a stage prior to enrichment. He did not elaborate.

In talks Thursday in Austria, envoys from Britain, France and Germany offered civilian nuclear technology and a trade deal to the Iranians reportedly in return for Iran permanently giving up all uranium enrichment activities —

technology that can be used to produce nuclear fuel or nuclear weapons.

"The proposal by the Europeans is unbalanced," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi told a news conference on Sunday. "However, the Europeans have chosen the correct path of dialogue."

Iran's nuclear program is now a matter of national pride, and is one of the few issues on which hard-liners and reformists agree.

The conservative-dominated parliament is drawing up a bill requiring the government to resume uranium enrichment, the only stage in the nuclear fuel

cycle that Iran says it is not yet carrying out.

Britain, Germany and France have warned that most European countries will back Washington's call to refer Iran's nuclear dossier to the U.N. Security Council for possible economic sanctions if Iran doesn't give up all uranium enrichment activities by the Nov. 25 meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In Iran, Asefi said, was still studying the European proposal.

"We think we have to reach a solution acceptable to both sides so that European concerns are eased and, at the same time, our rights under the Nuclear Nonpro-

liferation Treaty are recognized and met," Asefi added.

The spokesman said Iran had its own proposals but refused to discuss details.

Details of talks with the three key European powers would resume Wednesday, he said.

Asefi said Iran would not accept a permanent suspension of its nuclear activities, and maintained that the Europeans didn't want that either.

"The discussion is not about permanent suspension of enrichment. The Europeans have proposed indefinite suspension until an agreement is reached. They didn't call for a permanent suspension," he said.

Arab soap goes off the air after Islamic threat

BY ANWAR FARUQI

The Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Arab viewers of a soap opera about Afghanistan apparently won't learn how the love story ends after the series was suspended following Internet threats against anyone involved in airing it.

The series — "Al-Tareeq al-Kabul," Arabic for "The Road to Kabul" — chronicled life under Afghanistan's former Taliban rulers. It was being aired during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, which began Oct. 15 in most Muslim countries.

The soap's producers had asked all channels planning to air the series not to do so after a threat surfaced Oct. 14 on a Web site known for its militant content.

The statement threatened harm against anyone involved in the series, from actors to TV executives, if the Taliban was portrayed in a negative light. The authenticity of the threat could not be verified.

Some Arab channels pulled the show off the air even before the first episode, but the Middle East Broadcasting Centre and the Orbit Satellite Television and Radio Network, both Saudi-owned, aired several episodes.

MBC said in a statement Saturday it was forced to suspend the show because the producers had refused to provide any more episodes.

"Qatar Television, which funded the series, and the Arab Audio Visual Centre, which produced and distributed it, violated their commitment to provide all of the episodes before Ramadan," MBC said.

It said it had received only eight episodes, the last of which aired Friday.

A senior Qatar Television official refused to comment.

Orbit, another Saudi-owned channel that was pulled from the series, said on Sunday it also had suspended the show.

"The Road to Kabul," one of the most anticipated series this year, revolved around an Afghan woman who goes to England to study and falls in love with an Arab man. She returns to her native country, where she faces pressure from the hard-line Taliban, who force her to wear an all-enveloping burqa and prevent her from working.

Producers have said the series also depicted internal feuds among the Taliban but did not rebuke the thousands of Arabs who fought the Soviets alongside the Taliban.



Girma Hagos reads stories on the Internet in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to check up on the upcoming U.S. elections. "What happens in America affects us all," the 66-year-old said.

World keeps up with U.S. elections via TV, Internet

BY ANTHONY MITCHELL

The Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — Satellites and telephone wires bring the battle for the White House to an Internet café 7,200 miles away in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, where Girma Hagos goes for his daily dose of U.S. election news.

"What happens in America affects us all," the 66-year-old leather exporter said as he sat at a computer. He backs Democratic challenger John Kerry, saying: "I think he will show more interest in Africa."

Through the Internet and satellite television, the world can watch as never before — via a myriad of Web sites — virtually keep their preferred candidate.

In Ethiopia, 90 percent of people are too poor to have access to television or the Internet, but there is enough middle-class interest in American politics for state-owned television to offer daily coverage of the race in four languages.

And many people elsewhere around the globe watched the presidential debates live on television or via the Web — the main forum for non-Americans with no vote on Nov. 2.

They can register a preference on Web sites such as <http://worldpeace.org.au/voteelection.asp>, offering a "U.S. Election for the Rest of the World."

Kerry led with 44 percent of the more

than 10,000 votes cast on the Australia-based site as of Oct. 19, while President Bush had just over 5 percent. Independent Ralph Nader, who in real polls scores in the low single digits, had 39 percent of the Internet vote.

Non-Americans can also lobby Americans living abroad to vote by absentee ballot via www.telusamericantovote.com. Other campaigners (www.boycottbush.org) are calling for a boycott of companies that fund the Republican Party and for alternative U.S. Presidential Elections for "Another World" on Nov. 2.

The makeshift elections are planned in Brussels and Ghent in Belgium, London, Barcelona and Ibiza in Spain, Budapest in Hungary, and in Brazil, said Pol D'huysse, a Belgian organizer.

In Germany, the Web site of the Munich-based newspaper Sueddeutsche Zeitung allows readers to test whether they are "Bush or Kerry types," while the Tagesspiegel daily invites them to an online election game.

And for a humorous approach, try the "Drunk Against Bush" site at <http://det.falkstedt.dk/bush/en/>. It invites visitors to register every drop of intake as a protest against the president, a teetotaler who renounced alcohol after concluding he was drinking too much.

Associated Press writers Matt Surman in Berlin and John Leicester in Paris contributed to this report.

What other countries have at stake on Nov. 2 ...

The Associated Press

Some governments that, for reasons economic, political or strategic, have a particularly high stake in the outcome of the U.S. presidential election.

■ ISRAEL: Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has woven a close relationship with President Bush, receiving sweeping support from the U.S. administration for most of his policies and a silent nod during military operations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Although he has been careful not to express a preference, the tough-minded Israeli leader would likely not be able to count on the same from John Kerry.

■ EUROPEAN UNION: For France and Germany — dubbed "Old Europe" by U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld — a Kerry White House would mean a chance of mending ties. However, these nations that refused to help Bush in Iraq may have a problem saying no again if Kerry makes good on his campaign pledge to seek new allies in the war.

■ RUSSIA: Russian President Vladimir Putin did not support the war in Iraq, but that doesn't mean he has no reason to hope for a Bush victory. In fact, Putin hinted at a preference this week, saying terrorism shouldn't be allowed to block Bush's re-election.

■ JAPAN: U.S. officials praise Japan for cooperating in the war in Iraq and the trade friction between the world's two largest economies has largely disappeared. A Kerry victory could portend a return to the relative protectionism of previous Democratic administrations. That could help to explain why the thinly veiled support that Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi has shown for Bush.

■ CUBA: The U.S. trade embargo, in place since the early 1960s, has strengthened under Bush. Kerry says he supports the embargo but would order a full review of America's Cuba policy, including the ban on most U.S. travel to the island.

■ INDIA: While ordinary Indians overwhelmingly support Kerry, much of the business and government elite favors Bush. The reason: India has proposed tax incentives to businesses that keep factories and jobs in the United States rather than outsource them to India and elsewhere.

■ PAKISTAN: The Bush administration sees Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf — who seized power in a coup d'état in 1999 — as a key ally in the war on terror. That has translated into billions of dollars in aid for the poor South Asian nation, as well as a tolerance for human rights abuses.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s, Wednesday lows in the lower 50s

Britain, Ireland: Partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers in Ireland. Highs in the 50s, Wednesday lows in the lower to mid 40s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly cloudy with dense fog in the morning. Highs in the lower 70s, Wednesday lows in the lower to mid 50s.

France: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers in the east. Highs in the lower 50s to upper 60s, Wednesday lows in the lower 40s to lower 50s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s, Wednesday lows in the mid to upper 40s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with rain. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s, Wednesday lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Hungary: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s, Wednesday lows in the mid 50s

Northern Italy: Cloudy with rain.
Highs in the mid 60s, Wednesday
less in the lower 50s

Southern Italy: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s to lower 80s, Wednesday lows in the upper 50s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy with morning fog. Highs in the upper 60s, Wednesday lows in the lower 50s.

Norway: Cloudy with isolated rain-showers. Highs in the upper 40s to lower 50s, Wednesday lows in the upper 20s to upper 30s.

Portugal, Spain: Mostly cloudy.
Highs in the lower 60s to upper 70s.
Wednesday lows in the upper 40s to
lower 60s.

Turkey: Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s to upper 80s, Wednesday lows in the lower 50s to lower 60s

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at:
<https://ows.sembach.af.mil>
<http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil>

AFRIC



THE WORLD

	HI	LO		HI
Amsterdam	57	41	Manila	92
Bahrain	92	73	Mexico City	74
Beijing	61	36	Montreal	56
Beirut	83	73	Riyadh	94
Bermuda	80	71	Rio de Jan	84
Caracas	91	78	Seoul	62
Helsinki	53	44	Sofia	71
Hong Kong	84	71	Sydney	79
Lisbon	67	62	Tokyo	64

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

	HI	LO	OSK	Cleveland
Albany, Tex.	72	65	Rain	Coldwater Springs
Alcon, Ohio	63	45	PCity	Columbia, S.C.
Alhambra, Calif.	63	45	PCity	Columbus, Ohio
Albuquerque	69	49	PCity	Concord, Calif.
Alburtin/Pa.	63	40	PCity	Corpus Christi
Alburtin/Pa.	63	40	PCity	Dallas/Ft. Worth
Anchorage	69	48	PCity	Dayton
Anchorage	69	48	PCity	Daytona Beach
Atlanta	74	54	PCity	Des Moines
Atlanta City	74	54	PCity	Detroit
Atlanta City	74	54	PCity	Duluth
Baltimore	67	47	PCity	El Paso
Baltim. Rouge	67	47	PCity	El Paso
Baltim. Rouge	67	47	PCity	El Paso
Birmingham	62	41	PCity	Evans
Birmingham	62	41	PCity	Evans
Birmingham	62	41	PCity	Evans
Boston	68	45	PCity	Fargo
Boston	68	45	PCity	Fargo
Brownsville	71	51	PCity	Flagstaff
Buffalo	59	41	City	Flagstaff
Buffalo	59	41	City	Flagstaff
Cambridge, W.V.	66	46	PCity	Ft. Smith
Carrollton, Miss.	56	36	PCity	Ft. Smith
Carrollton, Miss.	56	36	PCity	Ft. Smith
Charleston, S.C.	64	44	Cr	Goodland
Charleston, W.Va.	72	52	PCity	Goodland
Chattanooga	79	54	PCity	Grand Junction
Chattanooga	79	54	PCity	Grand Rapids
Cheyenne	64	44	PCity	Grand Rapids

28	43	Poly	Hartburg	65	46	Cr
2	47	Poly	Hartford	62	40	Poly
3	49	Poly	Heller	50	39	Poly
3	50	Poly	Heller	50	39	Poly
3	50	Poly	Houston	88	73	Poly
4	49	Cr	Houston	88	73	Poly
3	50	Poly	Indianapolis	75	55	Poly
3	55	Poly	Indianapolis	75	55	Poly
3	58	Poly	Jacksonville	83	66	Poly
3	58	Poly	Jacksonville	83	66	Poly
2	63	Cr	Kansas	39	38	Poly
4	41	Poly	Kearney	64	59	Poly
4	41	Poly	Kearney	64	59	Poly
4	44	Poly	Knoxville	76	50	Poly
3	44	Poly	Knoxville	76	50	Poly
3	56	Poly	Lafayette	60	44	Poly
3	56	Poly	Lafayette	60	44	Poly
3	57	Poly	Las Vegas	66	54	Poly
3	57	Poly	Las Vegas	66	54	Poly
4	38	Poly	Lincoln	60	55	Poly
3	57	Poly	Little Rock	79	66	Poly
3	57	Poly	Little Rock	79	66	Poly
4	41	Poly	Louisville	73	51	Cr
3	47	Poly	Lubbock	70	58	Poly
3	47	Poly	Lubbock	70	58	Poly
3	61	Poly	Madison	59	49	Poly
3	61	Poly	Madison	59	49	Poly
2	50	Poly	Midland-Odessa	76	61	Poly
4	43	Poly	Minneapolis	57	48	Poly
3	43	Poly	Minneapolis	57	48	Poly
4	45	Poly	Mobile	84	67	Poly
3	45	Poly	Mobile	84	67	Poly
3	51	Poly	Montgomery	83	63	Poly
3	51	Poly	Montgomery	83	63	Poly

New York City	63	49	PCD	San Diego	66	50	PCD
Newark	67	49	PCD	San Francisco	66	50	PCD
New Haven	67	52	PCD	San Jose	66	50	PCD
New Orleans	67	52	PCD	San Juan, P.R.	66	50	PCD
New Orleans, La.	66	66	PCD	Santa Fe	66	50	PCD
Norman, Okla.	66	66	PCD	Seattle	66	50	PCD
Oregon	64	62	C	Shenandoah	66	50	PCD
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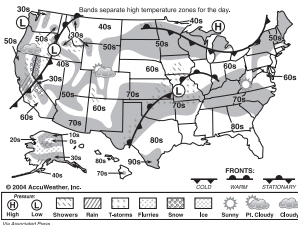
Map of the United States showing the distribution of precipitation types (High, Low, Showers, Rain, T.) for the period from 1950 to 1999. The map includes latitude and longitude lines and a legend for precipitation types.

Legend:

- High
- Low
- Showers
- Rain
- T.

THE UNITED STATES TODAY

As of noon, Eastern U.S. time



Scheduled to **ETS** or **PCS**?

Check our Relocation Guide
every Saturday to find
Realtors at your new station.

STARS AND STRIPES®
Your Hometown Newspaper

Horoscope

The Aries moon lends extra energy, especially for beginning long, potentially arduous tasks. Venus and Saturn come to an understanding, and so might we, especially when the subject is romance and the past. Our mistakes and misjudgments taught us much, and we're better for the experience.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 26). Your compass guides you down the path of least resistance this year. You see opportunities where you never noticed them before because you realize that life doesn't have to be hard, that people want to help you and that you are loved more than you know before. Romantic times next month can turn into a solid committed relationship by 2005.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may be feeling uncharacteristically shy. Social situations can be stressful, even when you know everyone involved. Don't allow your mind to go down paranoid, winding paths you know lead nowhere.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're a hard worker, and your hard work is paying off—though you probably won't know this in any tangible way until about 30 days from now.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Being culturally attuned is your thing. You know what's hip, hot and new. And people less clued in can't help but be attracted to you or even a little afraid of you. After all, you could expose them as being square and out of it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Joy opportunities are featured, even if you're not currently looking. It's interesting but a waste of time to investigate your options.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're unconsciously looking to bond with people who can parent you in some way. Role models will seem bigger than life, and you could find yourself

imitating them. It's a healthy thing to do because you're growing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're in a creative mood and will be further inspired by friends in a similar pursuit to yours. A little competition is healthy, but being overly competitive could cause a blowout.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Solitude and quiet help you fill your well. But finding them is difficult with so many people around you, each following his or her own quest. Many try to involve you, and some try to foot you into taking on their problems.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your emotional warmth is infectious, which is why so many get close to you. Since you know what you want, you may as well ask everyone. You're only three degrees away from the very person who will solve your problem.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People who live under the same roof still have much to learn about one another. Your nearest and dearest may have a value system that's different from yours. That doesn't make it wrong, just inconvenient.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Getting into a new partnership isn't favored, but improving the partnership you're already in is an excellent use of your energy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll have profound feelings and then possibly forget about them an hour later. It doesn't mean those thoughts are any less true or insightful; it's just that kind of day.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've got a very specific vision of how this day should go, and hopefully, the people around you are on the same page. If not, there are many challenges. Cash talks. Throwing money at a problem makes it go away.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



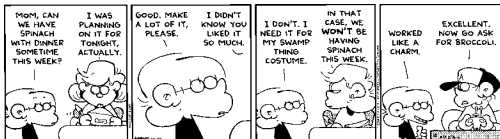
To our readers

For the past decade, this column has been written by Joyce Jillson and Holiday Mathis. Ms. Jillson passed away on Oct. 1. Because Ms. Jillson and Ms. Mathis wrote in advance, columns they prepared will run through Nov. 6. Beginning Nov. 7, the horoscopes will be re-named "Horoscopes by Holiday" and will be authored by Ms. Mathis.

Peanuts



Fotrot



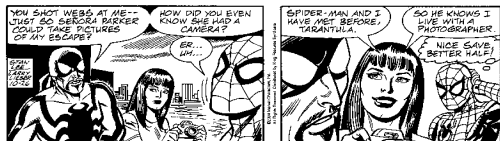
B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



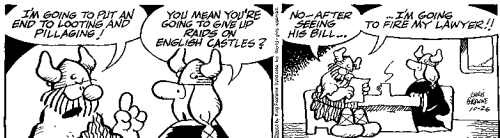
Blondie



Dilbert



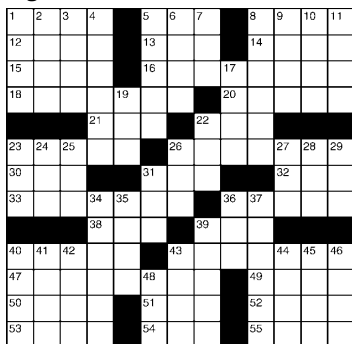
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Cat call
5 Peter Jennings' network
8 Rescue
12 Radius' neighbor
13 Pod occupant
14 On in years
15 Coaster
16 Unwavering
18 Affected in a negative way
20 Choir's accompaniment
21 Cover
22 One of Marilyn's husbands
23 Tony Cochran comic strip
26 Wilson's successor
30 — Canals
31 Run for exercise
32 Midafternoon social
33 Convertible alternative
36 Sits for pictures
38 Possess
39 Soundrel
40 Words to live by
43 Construction worker
47 Privation
49 Hawkeyes' home
50 Shrek, for example
51 Commotion
52 Ski lift transport
53 Cold War abbr.

Down

- 1 Iditarod command?
2 Singer Fitzgerald
3 Humdringer
4 Go like a duck
5 Garden pest
6 Trounce
7 Jam ingredient?
8 Holy
9 Enthusiastic, plus
10 Miles of film
11 Paradise
17 "Let's Make a Deal" option
19 Just one of the guy's?
22 Binge
23 Blond shade
24 — long way
25 Neither mate
26 School dance intro
27 "Monty Python" intro
28 Born
29 Petrol
31 Garfield's owner
34 Walk feebly
35 — company, ...
36 Standard
37 "Believe It Or Not!" item
39 Poultry buy
40 — En-lai
41 Cleaning cloth
42 Makes mistakes
43 Slash
44 Vagrant
45 Vacationing
46 Poi base
48 Scenery chewer

Answer to Previous Puzzle



10-26

CRYPTOQUIP

H B W X M ' J P H D K R P Y O T T

K J W H D F C H B B P J P D K

A P J B M Y P I . H ' C Z O T T W X M

O I R X A A H D F I Z P D K P J .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I SUPPOSE AN INSTRUCTIONAL BASEBALL VIDEO SHOULD BE CALLED "HOMER IMPROVEMENT."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals L

Hendrick team mourns

Owner's son, brother, nieces among 10 dead in plane crash

By HANK KURZ JR.
The Associated Press

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — One of auto racing's most successful dynasties was in mourning after a plane owned by Hendrick Motorsports crashed in thick fog en route to a NASCAR race, killing all 10 people aboard, including the son, brother and two nieces of owner Rick Hendrick.

The Beechcraft 200 King Air took off from Concord, N.C., and crashed Sunday in the Bull Mountain, Va., area near the Blue Ridge Regional Airport in Spencer, near the Martinsville Speedway, said Arlene Murray, spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration.

"It's just very tough," said Donnie Floyd, a Hendrick employee who placed a bouquet of flowers outside the company's headquarters. "We are like one big family."

Hendrick driver Jimmie Johnson's victory celebration after the Subway 500 in Martinsville was halted as news of the

deaths filtered through the Hendrick team, which also includes drivers Jeff Gordon, Terry Labonte and Brian Vickers.

The cause of the crash wasn't immediately known, but it happened in rough, hard-to-reach terrain in weather described as "extremely foggy" by Dale Greeson, who lives a mile from the site.

National Transportation Safety Board representatives began their investigation Monday.

"There is no information that any flight data or cockpit voice recorders were on board the aircraft," NTSB investigator Brian Rayner said.

Rayner said tapes of any communication between the pilot and the FAA had been requested by air traffic specialists and would be reviewed Monday.

Rick Hendrick didn't attend the race because he wasn't feeling well, a team official said.

Hendrick employs 460 workers at its North Carolina compound, which includes race shops and a 15,000-square-foot museum and

team store. Flowers were placed on shrubs leading into the compound.

The crash came on what was to be a triumphant day for the company, with Johnson winning his series-best sixth race and Gordon rallying from a poor start to finish ninth and move into second place in the championship standings.

Hendrick has staged a season-long celebration of its 20th anniversary in NASCAR's top series. The organization has won five titles in the top series, three truck series championships, and one Busch series crown.

Hendrick is the second team owner in NASCAR's modern era to win more than 100 Cup series races. He's also viewed as a pioneer for helping the movement to multiracial teams in the 1990s.

Hendrick Motorsports identified the dead as: Ricky Hendrick, Rick Hendrick's son; John Hendrick, Rick Hendrick's brother and president of Hendrick Motorsports; Kimberly and Jennifer Hendrick, John Hendrick's



Flowers left by mourners adorn the entrance to the Hendrick Racing Museum in Concord, N.C. Ten died in the crash of a Hendrick plane.

22-year-old twin daughters; Joe Jackson, an executive with DuPont; Jeff Turner, general manager of Hendrick Motorsports; Randy Dorton, the team's chief engine builder; Scott Lathram, a pilot for NASCAR driver Tony Stewart; and pilots Richard Tracy and Elizabeth Morrison.

Ricky Hendrick began his career driving a Busch car for his father, but retired in 2002 because of a racing-related shoulder injury. His father then made him the owner of the Busch car Vickers drove to the series championship last season, and was grooming him for a larger role.

Tragedy halts celebration for victorious Johnson

The Associated Press



Crews work on race cars during pit stops on Sunday in the NASCAR Subway 500 stock car race at Martinsville, Va.

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Jimmie Johnson's celebration of a victory at Martinsville Speedway was cut short Sunday when he learned that a Hendrick Motorsports plane had crashed on its way to the race, killing all 10 people aboard.

Shortly after the Subway 500, Johnson and Hendrick teammates Jeff Gordon, Terry Labonte and Brian Vickers received word of the crash.

Eight passengers and two pilots died, a spokesman with the National Transportation Safety Board said. State police said the dead included the son and brother of Hendrick Motorsports owner Rick Hendrick, two of his nieces, the company's chief engine builder and five others.

Johnson did a burnout on the front stretch in front of the fans after winning. Upon learning that the plane was missing, several members of the Hendrick teams huddled together on pit road.

NASCAR officials learned of the crash during the race at Martinsville Speedway, but waited until it was over before telling the Hendrick drivers or race fans. The Victory Lane celebration was canceled after the news was announced.

Johnson pulled away from Rusty Wallace and Ryan Newman on a restart with seven laps to go to win his series-high sixth race of the season and climb four spots in the season-ending title chase. Another solid performance by Kurt Busch moved him one step closer to winning NASCAR's first playoff championship.

"You've got to step up to the plate and race hard in each of these final 10" races, Busch said after finishing fifth, his sixth top-six run in as many races since the playoff started. "We had a regular season and now we have a playoff and right now we haven't had a bad finish."

Racing roundup

With four races left, it's too early for celebrations, Busch said.

"It's a matter of keeping things in perspective. Our sponsors are getting excited and the team is definitely feeling a bit closer to things, but we have to definitely look at each event individually and each day individually with qualifying in Atlanta that's coming up next."

While Busch led a race-high 120 laps, leading contenders Jeff Gordon struggled and Dale Earnhardt Jr. was never a factor, allowing Busch to build his lead to 96 points over Gordon and 125 over Earnhardt, who started the day just 24 off the lead.

"We didn't really need this," Earnhardt said.

Gordon, seeking his fifth championship, started the day 74 points behind and gave his second straight dazzling show of driving, employing strategy to overcome a car that ran in the mid-20s most of the day. He stayed on the track under a caution with about 150 laps left to get the position, then remained in the top 10 the rest of the way and finished ninth.

Last week, Gordon crashed on the first lap at Charlotte, went two laps down, spun out and yet rallied to finish second and keep his hope alive.

Neither he nor Johnson was available for comment after the race.

For Gordon and several others, a new concrete and asphalt surface put down this summer on the half-mile oval proved hard to master. The race was run in one groove, and drivers who got out of that groove paid a dear price as several cars routinely passed underneath them with ease.

Earnhardt, seeking his sixth consecutive top-five finish at Martinsville, was among those shuffled back into the field early — but that proved the least of his problems. After starting

third, he had trouble getting his car to turn all day, made repeated trips to pit road and two to the garage area.

The second time came with 34 laps to go when he was involved in a collision with Kyle Petty and finally drove his Chevrolet to his hauler, ending his day.

"Every once in a while, you get a bad batch of parts or something like that," he said. "We normally don't have these types of problems."

Jamie McMurray finished second in the race, Ryan Newman was third and Sterling Marlin fourth, giving Dodge the next three spots behind Johnson's Chevrolet. Busch was the top Ford and was followed by Jeremy Mayfield and Jeff Green, both in Dodges, and the Chevys of Kevin Harvick and Gordon.

Johnson is now 207 points off the lead.

Montoya wins F1 finale

SAO PAULO, Brazil — Juan Pablo Montoya won the season-ending Brazilian Grand Prix on Sunday in his last race for Williams-BMW. Next season he will join Sunday's runner-up, Kimi Raikkonen, with McLaren.

Ferrari's Rubens Barrichello had the pole and came in third, failing in his 12th attempt to win at Interlagos, his hometown track. Seven-time F1 champion Michael Schumacher was seventh.

Junqueira stays alive in points race

SURFERS PARADISE, Australia — Brazil's Bruno Junqueira won Sunday's Lexmark Indy 300, reducing Newman/Haas teammate Sebastien Bourdais' lead in the driver standings to 23 points heading into the season-ending race Nov. 7 in Mexico City.

Formula One taps Cancun

MEXICO CITY — Mexican officials say they have reached agreement to host a Formula One race in the Caribbean resort of Cancun starting in 2006.

Weary St. Louis is happy to be heading home

Cards leave Boston down 0-2, in dire need of clutch hitting

BY R.B. FALLSTROM

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Unable to come up with clutch hits in the first two games of the World Series in quirky Fenway Park, the St. Louis Cardinals were in a hurry to get home.

The Cardinals left for St. Louis — where they're 6-0 this postseason — in the middle of the night after their 6-2 loss to the Red Sox in Game 2 on Sunday night.

"We're down two, and it's going to be our turn to have homefield advantage, hopefully," Jim Edmonds said. "Hopefully, we take advantage of it."

World Series history is against the Cardinals. Of 33 teams who dropped the first two games on the road, only five have rallied to win the championship.

However, they beat the Astros in a pair of must-win games to take the NL Championship Series in seven games, knocking out Roger Clemens with a lightning-strike sixth inning in Game 7. And they're perfect at home in the postseason.

"We're tough mentally. We're not down at all," Reggie Sanders said. "I think the most important thing for us is to continue to play good, solid baseball, and we're doing that, and things will turn around."

In the World Series, the National League's top offense still hasn't clicked. A lineup that features three MVP candidates was 0-for-6 with runners in scoring position in Game 2, and the Cardinals also failed to capitalize on the Red Sox's second straight four-error game.

St. Louis came from behind to win 48 of its major league-high 105 victories during the regular season, but even with Boston's defense stumbling, the Cardinals were unable to rally in the first two games.

"We've made it hurt whenever we've had some extra outs given to us," catcher Mike Matheny said. "But they got timely hits, and we didn't."

In an 11-9 loss Saturday night in the opener, the Cardinals stranded nine runners, four each by Albert Pujols and Scott Rolen.

Rolen (.358) and Pujols (.343) were among the top hitters in the NL with runners in scoring position, but they were 0-for-8.

The problem in the first two games has been sustaining rallies.

The offense has been more of a case of isolated excellence.

Larry Walker was 4-for-5 Saturday night with a home run, single and double, but there wasn't enough support.

Pujols was 3-for-4 with two doubles and scored a run in Game 2, but Rolen and Edmonds were 0-for-7 and Walker was 0-for-4 ahead of Pujols in the lineup. Overall, the top six St. Louis hitters were 3-for-16.

In the first two games, Pujols, Rolen and Edmonds are 4-for-23 with one RBI.

"It's more frustrating because it's something that we can control," manager Tony La Russa said. "I thought we had a bunch of terrific at-bats and we did enough offensively to get more than two runs."



St. Louis Cardinals' Reggie Sanders strikes out against Boston's Red Sox closer Keith Foulke in the ninth inning of Sunday's game. The Cardinals managed only five hits and lost Game 2 of the World Series 6-2.

Red Sox survive another comedy of fielding errors in Game 2

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Red Sox followed the bouncing ball — off their gloves and hands — to a commanding World Series lead.

Four errors in the first game? Boston still beat St. Louis 11-9. Another four miscues in Game 2? Just a slapstick sidelight to a 6-2 victory.

More errors in the third game?

"If it takes making four errors and we win Game 3, so be it," center fielder Johnny Damon said Sunday night.

But none of the Red Sox want to set any more records for fielding futility when they play the third game in St. Louis on Tuesday night.

Schilling: Bloodied ace gets by on guts

SCHILLING, FROM BACK PAGE

Less than two weeks ago, Schilling thought his season might be over, after he was chased from the AL Championship Series opener by the Yankees after three innings. But, with three surgeries holding his dislocated ankle tendon in place, he won Game 6 in New York on Tuesday night.

The stitches went back in Saturday, but Schilling knew by Sunday morning that something had gone wrong.

"Somehow we had put an extra stitch in this time because there was some issues we wanted to try and avoid from last time and we had caught a nerve in the leg," he said. "As soon as we alleviated that nerve issue, things changed drastically. I went from, again, hobbling to being able to walk."

His velocity inconsistent at times, Schilling threw a devastating splitter when he needed it against the Cardinals. He gave up just four hits and an unearned run in six innings, got the important outs he needed and held St. Louis to 0-for-6 with runners in scoring position.

"You could see he was battling with his ankle," Boston manager Terry Francona said. "We all know what the circumstances are. He was very, very good."

The ankle isn't the only problem. Schilling said he "tweaked" a hip flexor in the third inning, and he put a hot water bottle on it when he wasn't on the mound.

"I thought early on, like the first two or three innings, he wasn't quite as sharp," St. Louis manager Tony La Russa said.

"After that, whenever we even got a smell, he made quality pitches."

Schilling, Alan Embree, Mike Timlin and Keith Foulke combined on a five-hitter, keeping the trio of Larry Walker, Scott Rolen and Jim Edmonds to a combined 0-for-11. Albert Pujols had three of the St. Louis hits.

"We hit some balls right at guys, and when they needed to make pitches, they did," Edmonds said. "They took advantage of their situation and we didn't."

Schilling improved to 8-2 in the postseason and became the first starting pitcher to win in the Series for three teams, having also pitched for Arizona and Philadelphia.

Of the 33 teams to open the Series with two victories at home, 28 have gone on to win the title. Boston took a 2-0 lead at Shea Stadium in 1986 before losing in seven games to the New York Mets.

"Our defense will affect us if we don't play better," slick-fielding shortstop Orlando Cabrera said. "Somehow it will catch up with us. They haven't taken advantage of it, but they will."

The Cardinals had five hits Sunday night, just one more than the number of errors the Red Sox committed.

So when third baseman Bill Mueller made the last of his three errors with two outs in the sixth, and second baseman Mark Bellhorn followed with another, St. Louis couldn't capitalize as Scott Schilling got Reggie Sanders to ground to Mueller, who stepped on third for a forecourt.

In the opener Saturday night, Manny Ramirez made er-

rors on consecutive plays; one ball got under his glove and another bounced off him as he made an awkward drive for a fly ball. First baseman Kevin Millar and pitcher Bronson Arroyo made wild throws.

Mueller's first error Sunday came when he got in the way of catcher Jason Varitek's attempt to catch Jim Edmonds' routine pop behind home plate. The ball fell, but Edmonds then grounded out.

"We've got to pick it up on defense. We've got some work to do," said second baseman Pokey Reese, a former Gold Glove winner.

Until their adventures afield, the Red Sox had been sure-handed: They made just two errors on 10 games in the AL division series and championship series.



Orlando Cabrera hits a two-run single in the sixth inning for the Red Sox against the Cardinals.

World Series	
Boston 11, St. Louis 9	Sunday, Oct. 23
Boston 6, St. Louis 2	Tuesday, Oct. 24
Boston 6, St. Louis 2	Wednesday, Oct. 25
Boston (Marlinz 16-9) vs. St. Louis (Papp 16-9)	Thursday, Oct. 26
Boston at St. Louis, if necessary	Friday, Oct. 27
St. Louis at Boston, if necessary	Saturday, Oct. 28
St. Louis at Boston, if necessary	Sunday, Oct. 29
St. Louis at Boston, if necessary	Monday, Oct. 30
St. Louis at Boston, if necessary	Tuesday, Oct. 31

Sunday Red Sox 6, Cardinals 2	
ST. LOUIS	BOSTON
Bertha 1b	3 1 0 0
Walker rf	4 0 0 0
Pujols 1b	4 0 0 0
Rolen 3b	3 0 0 0
Edmonds cf	4 0 0 0
RSDs lf	4 0 0 0
Winnick 2b	4 0 0 0
Mattvey c	4 0 0 0
Melvin dh	4 0 0 0
Tupich dh	1 0 0 0
Bellhorn 2b	3 1 2 0
Bellhorn 2b	3 1 2 0
Reese 2b	1 0 0 0
Totals	
St. Louis	22 5 1 0
Boston	200 202 90-2
Edmonds 3 (2), Bellhorn 1 (2), Pujols 2, Rolen 2, Lohr 2, St. Louis 6, Boston 9, 2nd out-Varitek 1 (1), SF-Rolen 1	
IP H R ER BS O	
St. Louis	
Moore L-D 1	4/5 4 4 4 4 3
King 1	1/5 0 0 0 0 1
Morris 1	1/5 0 0 0 0 1
Almon 1	1 0 0 0 0 0
Beckley 1	1 0 0 0 0 0
Almon W-L 1	6 4 4 0 1 4
Ember 1	1 0 0 0 0 3
Timlin 1	1 1 1 0 0 0
Foulke 1	1/5 0 0 0 0 2
HBP by Eldred (Varitek) vs. Morris (Millar), T-320, A-35,001 (35,095)	

Jaguars find another hero in Scobee

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Byron Letwisch is getting used to these frantic finishes. He just hopes they keep turning out the right way.

On Sunday, Letwisch led the Jaguars to scoring drives on their final three possessions, and rookie Josh Scobee joined the growing list of Jacksonville heroes by making a season-long 53-yard field goal with 38 seconds left to beat the Indianapolis Colts 27-24.

It was another chapter in the Jaguars' magical season. Their five wins have all come in the game's final minute.

"We just find a way to pull it out," Letwisch said. "We expect to win every game. That's the personality of our team."

Sunday's victory might have been the most critical.

Jacksonville (5-2) moved past the Colts and into first place in the AFC South, snapped the Colts' four-game winning streak and won for the first time at the RCA Dome after three losses there.

It also gave the Jaguars a split in the season series after losing at home to the Colts three weeks ago.

"We knew it was important, but we didn't want to tell all you guys and blow it up into something bigger than it was," Letwisch told reporters. "We knew we had to find a way to win this game."

Mission accomplished, thanks in part to the Colts' atypical performance.

Indianapolis (4-2) looked rusty coming off a bye week, committing a season-high 12 penalties, fumbling twice and allowing the Jaguars to keep the ball nine minutes longer. In the third quarter alone, Indianapolis ran just seven offensive plays.

Chiefs 56, Falcons 10: At Kansas City, Mo., the Chiefs (2-4) set a league mark with eight TDs rushing, led by Priest Holmes and four by his backup, Derrick Byaklock.

Holmes sprained his ankle early in the second half, but already had tied the league mark with four TDs rushing in on his half. The eight touchdowns also broke the record for most in a game against the Falcons (5-2), who came in leading the NFL, allowing only 74.5 yards rushing per game.

"I'm excited because it sets this offensive line apart from any offensive line in history," Holmes said. "They created lanes and seams and we did an excellent job as far as reading them."

Vikings 20, Titans 3: Randy Moss excelled in his consecutive games streak to 102 with a token start at home, but his strained right hamstring kept him without a catch for the first time in his seven-year career. But Dante Culpepper completed 24 of 30 mostly low-risk passes, and an aggressive defense knocked quarterback Steve McNair out of the game for the slumping Titans (2-5) when he reentered his chest.

After throwing 10 touchdowns in the last two weeks, Culpepper finished with 183 yards and one score to Marcus Robinson just before halftime. Rookie Mewelde Moore ran for 138 yards on 20 carries for Minnesota (5-1).



Kansas City Chiefs running back Priest Holmes (31) follows the block of center Casey Wiegman (62) on Falcons linebacker Jamie Duncan (59) for a short gain in the first quarter. Holmes ran for four touchdowns in the first half, and Derrick Byaklock ran for four more as Kansas City set a record for rushing touchdowns in a game.

Ravens 20, Bills 6: At Baltimore, the Ravens were without one star, suspended running back Jamal Lewis. So another star, cornerback Deion Sanders, returned an interception 48 yards for a touchdown and also picked off a pass in the end zone. Chad Williams went 94 yards with another interception as the Ravens (4-2) took advantage of five turnovers by the puncheonless Bills (1-5).

Lewis is serving a two-game suspension for violating the NFL substance abuse policy. Chester Taylor filled in for Lewis and ran for 89 yards on 21 carries.

Lions 28, Giants 13: The Lions (4-2) seem unbeatable away from the Motor City. Joey Harrington threw two touchdown passes and Chris Cash made a diving interception in the end zone late in the first half in their third straight road victory.

Kevin Jones scored on a 2-yard run and Artose Pinner on an 8-yard run as the Lions snapped a four-game winning streak for the Giants (4-2). New York has lost four straight and 13 of 16 after a bye week since the NFL started giving teams weeks off in 1990.

Chargers 17, Panthers 6: Keenan McCardell, acquired by the Chargers (4-3) on Tuesday in a trade with Tampa Bay, showed no signs of rust from missing the first six games of the season during a hold-

out. He helped set up LaDainian Tomlinson's 8-yard touchdown with a pair of catches on a 64-yard scoring drive. Jesse Chatham added a 5-yard scoring run as visiting San Diego equalized its win total of last season.

It was a disheartening loss for Carolina (1-5), which gained only 263 yards.

Saints 31, Raiders 26: Joe Horn had nine receptions for 123 yards. Deuce McAllister ran for two short touchdowns, Aaron Brooks threw for 282 yards and a touchdown, and visiting New Orleans (3-4) ended a three-game slide.

John Carney kicked a 41-yard field goal with 4:31 left, then Colby Brockwell scooped up Carlos Francis' fumble on the ensuing kickoff and ran it 6 yards for another Saints score.

Oakland (2-5) ended a seven-quarter touchdown drought when Kerry Collins connected with tight end Doug Jolley on a 34-yard TD pass 26 seconds into the fourth quarter.

Bucs 19, Bears 7: At Tampa, Fla., Michael Pittman ran for 109 yards and a touchdown, Brian Griese threw a 6-yard TD pass to Michael Clayton and Martin Gramatica kicked a pair of 22-yard field goals for Tampa Bay (2-5).

Pittman became the fourth back in six games to top the century mark against the Bears (1-5).

that when we get to the evaluation. If I can't go out there and perform I'm not going to play."

McNair's injury was somewhat neutralized by Minnesota's loss of Moss, who extended his consecutive games streak to 102, but was limited to two snaps and no catches because of an aggravation of a right hamstring injury.

"It was never un-aggravated," Vikings coach Mike Tice said.

Pats down lets stay undefeated

BY ANDREA ADELSON

The Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. — Patriots coach Bill Belichick smiled and waved to the home crowd after his team won yet again.

A 13-7 victory over the rival New York Jets extended New England's NFL-record winning streak to 21 games, and the Patriots also set a regular-season mark with their 18th straight win, surpassing the 17 won by the 1935-36 Chicago Bears. Plus, the Patriots made it 6-0 for the first time in franchise history.

But as usual, Belichick did not utter one word about streaks to his players after the game. Instead, the usually dour coach was happy about being alone in first place in the AFC East.

"They, I was happy to win," Belichick said. "Anytime we win a division game, I am happy. You are never going to see me unhappy if we win in the division."

In the rare matchup between unbeaten teams, the Patriots triumphed in yet another close game, forcing the Jets (5-1) into mistakes that ended up costing them. New York lost a fumble in the red zone, and two penalties led to 10 points.

The biggest play came from the expected: the defense. On fourth-and-8 from the New England 30, Chad Pennington only needed to get a first down to keep the Jets alive. But the usually dour coach tried to throw to Wayne Chrebet, but Rodney Harrison broke up the pass with 2:14 remaining.

It was the huddle before the play, the Patriots stayed calm. After all, they had been there many times before.

"There's never nervous moments," linebacker Tedy Bruschi said. "We've been in that situation, and whatever it is, we're going to realize it and make a play."

Willie McGinest and Richard Seymour made a play just before Harrison. On third-and-5 from the 27, they combined to stop Curtis Martin for a 3-yard loss.

Watching from the sideline, Tom Brady knew the defense would make something happen.

"We go into these games with so much confidence that defense will play well," Brady said. "When you have to go a long way, those guys make it tough."

Brady was effective, and his 7-yard touchdown pass to David Patten just before halftime ended up being the difference. Brady finished with 16 for 30 yards and a touchdown, and Corey Dillon had 22 carries for 115 yards, the first 100-yard runner the Jets have allowed all season. David Givens also had five catches for 107 yards.

Martin passed Jim Brown for seventh place on the NFL career rushing list in the second quarter. Martin had 70 yards on 20 carries to finish with 12,382 career yards. Brown ran for 12,312.

But mistakes ended up costing the Jets. A too-many-men-on-the-field penalty on fourth-and-1 gave the Patriots a first down early in the second quarter, and New England converted the mistake into points when Adam Vinatieri made a 27-yard field goal to make it 6-0.

After Pennington scored on a 1-yard bootleg run to put the Jets up 7-6, New England got the ball back with 1:55 left in the half.

Brady expertly ran the 2-minute offense, moving the Patriots down to New York 13 with 18 seconds to go. On the next play, tackle Dewayne Robertson was whistled for roughing the passer. Brady connected with Patten for the 7-yard score to give the Patriots the lead.

McNair, Moss do more sitting than playing

The Associated Press

Steve McNair and Randy Moss barely worked up a sweat Sunday before injuries sent them to the sidelines.

McNair, the oft-injured Tennessee Titans quarterback, went down again with a recurrence of the bruised chest that kept him in the hospital for two nights last month.

McNair was hurt on the first play of the second quarter of Tennessee's 20-3 loss to

the Minnesota Vikings and finished 2-for-5 for 2 yards. He walked slowly off the field with a grimace after lying on the turf for a few minutes.

McNair acknowledged he might have to take some more time off.

"This is not going to heal in one or two weeks if I continue to go out there and play," McNair said. "I don't want to sit, but I have to that's fine. We'll have to discuss

Trickery treats Dolphins to win

BY STEVEN WINE

The Associated Press

MIAMI — The Miami Dolphins didn't douse their coach with ice water or hoist him on their shoulders or mob each other at mid-field. When their first victory of the season was complete, they celebrated simply by walking off the field with their heads held high.

Much-maligned Jay Fiedler threw for two touchdowns, embattled coach Dave Wannstedt gambled successfully several times and the Dolphins became the last NFL team to win this season, beating the St. Louis Rams 31-14 on Sunday.

"It's only one game," defensive end Jason Taylor said. "Let's not get carried away and start cutting up confetti for a ticker-tape parade. But it does a lot. It'll help our confidence."

After enduring the worst start in their 39-year history, the Dolphins (1-6) took out their frustration on the Rams (4-3), who had three players dazed by big hits on a single play.

"Enough is enough," said defensive end David Bowens, who proclaimed last week that he expected Miami to win its final 10 games. "At some point you've got to draw a line in the sand and be a man about it."

Miami jump-started its season-improving offense with a succession of

big plays and occasional trickery. Fiedler threw touchdown passes of 42 yards to Randy McMichael and 71 yards to Chris Chambers, and receiver Marty Booker threw a 48-yard completion to set up Miami's first score.

"We opened up the playbook," McMichael said. "Coach threw all caution to the wind. We've got nothing to lose."

Fiedler shrugged off boos during the pregame introductions and five sacks to finish 13-for-17 for 203 yards. The Dolphins scored four touchdowns, matching their total for the first six games.

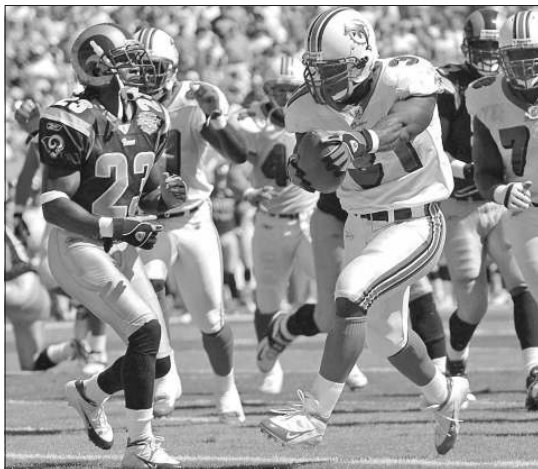
"We kept St. Louis' defense off balance the whole day," Fiedler said.

Miami, which entered with a league-high 17 turnovers, committed none. A replay review overturned a fumble lost by Chambers in the fourth quarter, and instead the drive produced a field goal for a 24-7 lead.

The Rams' lone turnover was costly, with Marc Bulger's pass intercepted in the end zone when they were threatening to tie the game in the third quarter. St. Louis totaled 372 yards but converted only two of 13 third-down situations.

"The mistakes we made today came back and bit us," Bulger said.

A trick play helped Miami



Dolphins running back Sammy Morris (31) scores on an 8-yard touchdown run against the St. Louis Rams.

score first. Booker took a handoff on a reverse, then threw deep to Chambers. On the next play, Sammy Morris scored Miami's first rushing touchdown of the season on an 8-yard run.

At 7-all, Fiedler fired a blitz on third-and-27 and found McMichael streaking down the middle for a touchdown with 22 seconds left in the half.

"That's the only time I've ever called a play on defense, and it goes for a touchdown," Rams coach Mike Martz said. "I guess that's why I don't coach defense."

The Rams, who staged come-from-behind victories in their past two games, again tried to rally and made the score 24-14 on Bulger's 15-yard touchdown pass to Shaun McDonald with 4:51 left.

Miami answered with the clincher 27 seconds later. Fiedler threw a short third-down pass to Chambers, who found a seam and sprinted to the end zone.

"Every dog has its day, and today was their day," Rams defensive tackle Damione Lewis said. "You never know. They could run off six straight wins now. That's the NFL."

Smith sets record with 100-yard game, seals Cards' win

BY BOB BAUM

The Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. — Emmitt Smith has another NFL record — most 100-yard rushing games in a career.

The vast majority came with a power-house team in Dallas. Maybe that's why the two he has this season with the young Arizona Cardinals seemed to mean so much.

Smith broke Walter Payton's record with 100-yard game No. 78 in Arizona's 25-17 victory over the Seattle Seahawks on Sunday.

"Now I am in what most people consider the backside of my career," Smith said. "I have the opportunity to play with a bunch of guys who are very fun to play with, very fun to work with."

Smith sealed the victory with a 23-yard touchdown run with just less than 2 minutes to play.

"That was a classic Emmitt Smith play," Arizona coach Dennis Green said. "That's when Emmitt does the unexpected."

The game marked the first time in 20 years the NFL's career yardage leader in receiving (Jerry Rice) and rushing (Smith) opened each other. But while Smith exceeded, the 42-year-old Rice caught just one pass for 10 yards in his first game for Seattle after being acquired in a trade with Oakland.

When it was over, Rice sought out Smith on the field.

"He's one of the best, and I just wanted to pull him aside and say congratulations,"



Cardinals running back Emmitt Smith, left, and Seahawks receiver Jerry Rice greet each other at the end of their game on Sunday. Smith ran for his 78th career 100-yard game.

Rice said. "You know, he's still doing it."

Smith wasn't the only Cardinals player with a record performance. Neil Rackers was good from 55, 55 and 50 yards to tie Morten Andersen's record for most field goals at least 50 yards in a game.

"I just hit them the same," Rackers said.

"They could have been 20-yarders. The way the ball flies out here, you just want to hit the ball smooth, and it will go."

Gerald Hayes blocked a Seattle punt for a safety to put Arizona in the lead for good after the Seahawks rallied from 13 down to go ahead 17-16.

The Seahawks lost their third in a row after a 3-0 start.

"We were bad today. I don't know how else to say it," coach Mike Holmgren said. "I'm embarrassed about how we executed offensive football."

A victory would have given Seattle sole possession of first place in the NFC West.

"We've got to decide are we the team that started the season or the team that played the last three games," Holmgren said. "We can still fix this, and we can still finish strong, but we've got to play better than we did today to do that. If not, heck, it's going to be tough."

Matt Hasselbeck completed just 14 of 41 passes and was intercepted four times.

"You can put all the blame on me," he said. "I was just bad. I feel like I really let my teammates down today. I really have no answers. I just couldn't get it going. I don't know why. I don't know what the deal was, but it was my fault."

Smith gained 106 yards on 26 carries, his second 100-yard effort in three games — both Arizona victories.

"It didn't feel close to 100 yards," he said. "I expected to have about 48 or 50, and when I heard that call, I wanted to know where the other yards came from."

Rackers kicked 20 55-yarders in the second quarter and hit a 50-yarder in the third to tie the record set by Andersen for Atlanta against New Orleans on Dec. 10, 1995.

In fact, all four field goals in the game were from beyond 50. Josh Brown kicked one from 54 yards for Seattle's only points in the first half.

Owens scores twice; Eagles escape in OT

By TOM WITHERS

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — As he left Browns Stadium, Terrell Owens pulled a Sharpie out of his pocket and signed autographs for any fan who wanted one.

Jeff Garcia was nowhere around. Owens was in a playful mood. The Philadelphia Eagles were still undefeated.

David Akers kicked a 50-yard field goal in overtime, and Donovan McNabb matched a career high with four touchdown passes — two to Owens — as the Eagles stayed unbeaten with a 34-31 win over the Cleveland Browns on Sunday.

Akers' kick barely wobbled over the crossbar 9:58 into OT as the Eagles (6-0) continued their best start since 1981.

"We had our good points. We made some mistakes. But we're 6-0 and I like it," McNabb said.

The Eagles survived their stiffest test by far this season from the Browns (3-4), who made as many big plays and got a favorable call in the fourth quarter to force OT. But despite getting 27 first downs and 394 yards of offense, Cleveland couldn't quite pull off the upset.

"There are no moral victories in the NFL," Browns center Jeff Faine said, "but we took these guys to the limit."

McNabb finished 28-for-43 for 376 yards and one interception. But it was his legs that set up Akers' winner, a 28-yard scramble that got the ball to midfield.



Eagles receiver Terrell Owens gets ready to throw the ball at an sign he found offensive in the Dawg Pound in Cleveland after scoring a touchdown in the first quarter.

"There's one reason I did it," McNabb said. "I was open. I prefer not to run, but I have to take full advantage of every opportunity."

Owens, whose feud with Browns quarterback Garcia — his former San Francisco teammate — dominated the pregame hype, had four catches for 109 yards.

Owens scored two TDs in the first half,

and after each, the controversial wideout, who has eight TD catches already this season, took exception with two signs directed at him that hung over the end zone walls.

"I found them humorous," he said. "I kind of fueled me. We all thought they were funny."

Owens came out for pregame warmups escorted by security personnel and was the last Eagles player to take the field after introductions. He made a quick impact, catching a 39-yard TD pass to give Philadelphia a 14-7 lead.

He celebrated by firing the ball against a beach sheet that said: "T.O. has B.O."

In the second quarter, Owens got behind cornerback Anthony Henry for an easy 40-yard TD to make it 21-10. This time, he ripped another sign about him off the wall and was flagged 15 yards for excessive celebration.

"I thought that was nitpicky," said Owens, who was asked what he would have done after a third TD. "I had something planned."

Garcia went 21-for-36 with 236 yards and tied it at 31 with 30 seconds to go in regulation on a 4-yard run.

That came after a questionable roughing call against Eagles safety Brian Dawkins, who was flagged on a fourth- and 7-play despite making minimal contact with Garcia.

"I got him this much," Dawkins said, holding his thumb and index finger a fraction apart. "I didn't like it."

Garcia hasn't liked much of what has

come out of Owens' mouth in recent months. In his autobiography and during interviews, Owens has insinuated that Garcia is gay.

Even if the Browns had won, Garcia didn't think Owens would stop belittling him.

"I don't think anything you do is going to shut him up," Garcia said. "I don't need to bring myself down to anyone else's level. As much as there might be different thoughts in my head, I'll keep them to myself."

Last week, Garcia said he may be willing to someday patch things up with Owens.

Owens might be open to that, too. "My heart is big like that," Owens said. "I'm not a guy to hold grudges. When we had our spats we came back together — so maybe so."

The Browns had the ball just once in OT before punting to the Eagles, an NFL-best 28-7 on the road since 2000. On first down, McNabb couldn't find anyone open and scrambled to the 50.

Dervey Losen, who came in when Brian Westbrook went out with a bruised knee, ran the ball twice as the Eagles got to the 32.

Akers' second-most accurate kicker in league history (82.8 percent) entering the season, then booted his winner for the NFL's only unbeaten team.

"Whew," said Akers. "I knew it was straight, but I didn't know if it was going to get there. Before overtime, I told the coaches that 50 yards [was] all I had."

Packers keep offensive rhythm in rout of Cowboys

By ARNIE STAPLETON

The Associated Press



Packers running back Ahman Green races past diving Cowboys safety Tony Dixon on his way to a 90-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Since Mike Sherman took over the offensive play-calling, the Green Bay Packers have racked up 72 points, 914 yards and no turnovers in consecutive routs of Detroit and Dallas.

"It's not easy, I'll tell you," the multitasking coach and general manager said after Green Bay scored on its first seven possessions Sunday to thrash the Cowboys 41-20.

Sherman, who called the game with offensive coordinator Tom Rossley, still weak from heart surgery, offering advice from the coaches box, sure made it look easy.

Green Bay (3-4) dominated Dallas (2-4) in every way and ended a three-game losing streak at Lambeau Field.

Brett Favre threw two touchdown passes despite a jammed right wrist. Ahman Green ran for

his first two TDs since the season opener despite a sore Achilles' tendon. Ryan Longwell kicked two field goals and the halfback option pass produced points for the second straight week.

"This is certainly the low point for me in my tenure here in Dallas, without question," said Cowboys coach Bill Parcells, in his second year with the team. "I am embarrassed to put a team on the field that looks like that. If we don't play better on defense than we did today, we don't have a chance to win another game."

Sherman will continue in his new role at least through next week's game at Washington but said his temp job is strictly week-to-week.

Rossley said last week, however, that he would be reluctant to return to calling the plays now that the Packers have found a spark after a four-game losing streak.

"Trust me, it's not the plays, it's the players making plays," Sherman said. "When they get up and make plays and throws, it's easy as runs and blocks, it's easy to call the game."

It was another masterpiece as Green Bay gained 480 yards and punter Bryan Barker wasn't needed until the fourth quarter.

"That was a bad beating," Parcells said. "We couldn't even slow them down. I did think we could move the ball if we could ever get into position to make it a contest. But they just manhandled us today in every way. We couldn't make them punt."

Green ended a monthlong funk by rushing for 163 yards, including a 90-yard score in the third quarter that was the longest Dallas had ever surrendered.

Javon Walker (eight catches for 129 yards) had the fourth 100-yard game this season and his 5-yard TD catch helped Green Bay take a 20-6 halftime lead.

Running back Tony Fisher's first NFL toss found Bubba Franks alone in the end zone to make it 27-6 in the third quarter.

Sunday's NFL stars:

Quarterbacks

■ Donovan McNabb, Eagles, threw a career-high four touchdowns in a 34-31 overtime win over the Browns. McNabb was 28-for-43 for 376 yards.

■ Byron Leftwich, Jaguars, went 27-for-30 for 300 yards and two touchdowns in a 27-24 win over the Colts.

■ Peyton Manning, Colts, hit on 27-for-39 for 368 yards and three touchdowns in the loss to Jacksonville.

■ Brett Favre, Packers, completed 23 of 29 passes for 258 yards in a 41-20 win over Dallas.

■ Aaron Brooks, Saints, was 23-for-39 for 282 yards with a 4-yard TD pass to Lamont Hall in a 31-26 win at Oakland.

Running Backs

► Emmitt Smith, Cardinals, broke Walter Payton's NFL record for 100-yard games rushing with his 78th. Smith gained 108 yards on 26 carries, his second 100-yard effort in three games.

■ Priest Holmes and Derrick Byakley, Chiefs, Holmes tied an NFL record with four rushing touchdowns in the first half of a 56-10 rout of Atlanta before leaving with a slightly sprained ankle. Byakley replaced him and scored one TD in the half and three more in the second one.

■ Michael Pittman, Buccaneers, rushed for 109 yards and a touchdown on 23 carries and had a 46-yard reception that set up a field goal in a 15-7 win over Chicago.

■ Ahman Green, Packers, ended a monthlong funk by rushing for 163 yards and



two scores, including a 90-yarder, as Green Bay beat Dallas 41-20. He became the second player in NFL history to average 100-yard rushing runs of at least 90 yards jointly in January and February. In 1967, Green had a 98-yard run last December.

Receivers

■ Jimmy Smith, Browns, made five catches for 113 yards and a touchdown in the 27-24 victory at Indianapolis.

■ Brandon Stokley and Marvin Harrison, Colts, also had big games. Stokley had seven catches for 115 yards and Harrison five for 78 with two touchdowns while tying with an injured receiver for the lead.

■ Keenan McCardell, Chargers, made five catches for 65 yards in his first action of the season. McCardell joined the Chargers in Tampa Bay since the beginning of training camp.

■ Joe Horn, Saints, had nine receptions for 143 yards in a 31-26 victory at Oakland.

AP photos

SPORTS



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Schilling stands tall

Hobbled ace turns in another gutsy performance, gives Boston 2-0 World Series lead over St. Louis

BY RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Curt Schilling got out of bed and panicked.

"I woke up at 7 o'clock this morning, which is a ti-poff right there," he said. "I've never woke up at 7 o'clock in the morning for anything in my life. I wasn't going to pitch. I couldn't walk. I couldn't move."

He did pitch. He did walk. And he did move — the Red Sox within two wins of the World Series title that has eluded them since 1918.



"You could see he was battling with his ankle. We all know what the circumstances are. He was very, very good."

Terry Francona
Red Sox manager

His ankle stitched together for the second time in a week and blood soaking through his sock again, Schilling stomped on St. Louis, leading Boston over the Cardinals 6-2 Sunday night for a 2-0 World Series lead.

"I just wish everybody on this planet could experience the day that I just experienced," Schilling said.

Jason Varitek's rare two-run triple, a booming two-run double by Game 1 star Mark Bellhorn and Orlando Cabrera's two-run

single — all with two outs — offset another night of damaging defense.

Boston made four errors for the second straight game, including a Series record-tying three by third baseman Bill Mueller.

Pedro Martinez will try to make it a 3-0 lead Tuesday night when he faces Jeff Suppan in Game 3 in St. Louis.

"We can't relax," Manny Ramirez said. "They've got a great history in the Series. They could come back."

While the Cardinals have lost eight straight Series road games, they are 6-0 at Busch Stadium this postseason.

"We put ourselves in a tough situation, but hanging our heads is not what this team is all about," Cardinals reliever Cal Eldred said.

SEE SCHILLING ON PAGE 26



Boston Red Sox starter Curt Schilling pitches during Game 2 of the World Series in Boston on Sunday. Schilling pitched with his ankle stitched together and allowed an unearned run in six innings as the Red Sox beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-2.



Blood stains the sock of Boston pitcher Curt Schilling during World Series Game 2 Sunday.

Tragedy strikes
NASCAR:
Hendrick team plane
crashes,
killing 10

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Akers keeps
Eagles
unbeaten,
drives home
field goal
vs. Browns
in overtime

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Patriots tag Jets
with first loss,
move streak to 21

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